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Alcohol and Other Drug Use by Canadians: A National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989) Technical Report

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For the

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The opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Health and Welfare Canada.

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Preface

This is the fifth in a series of reports describing the results of Canada's National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989). This report focuses on consumption of alcohol and other drugs by Canadians aged 15 and over, related behaviour and consequences. The survey was carried out by Statistics Canada on behalf of Health and Welfare Canada in March 1989. In total, 11,634 Canadians 15 years of age and over participated in the survey. Respondents were asked a broad array of questions about their use of alcohol and other drugs, the extent of use, patterns of use and the circumstances and settings associated with use. They were questioned about health, social and economic problems arising from the misuse of alcohol and illicit, prescription and over-the-counter drugs, and they were asked what could be done to prevent such problems. All respondents were guaranteed complete anonymity and confidentiality.

The survey results provide a solid basis for evaluating the dimensions of the problems caused by alcohol and other drug use among Canadians. This report is intended to inform policy and program development throughout Canada, to stimulate dialogue and debate among practitioners in the field, to provide a basis for further research and, especially, to equip Canadians with the information they need to make informed decisions about alcohol and other drug use.

Despite its impressive scope, the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey has a number of limitations. It excludes certain groups, such as adolescents under 15, the homeless and people living in institutions. As well, only a limited number of the thousands of psychotropic and other substances currently available in Canada could be studied. Separate investigations focusing upon these important topics will be undertaken elsewhere to complete the picture. One such investigation addressing alcohol and other drug use in the Yukon has been completed, and preparations are under way to conduct a similar survey in the Northwest Territories.

Research into drug abuse in Canada is still in its infancy, and the nature and extent of the problem need more documentation. This study makes an

important contribution to bridging the information gap and paving the way towards effective long-term action.

Canada's Drug Strategy



The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey is part of Canada's Drug Strategy, which was launched on May 27, 1987. It is based on extensive consultation between the federal government, provincial and territorial governments, non-governmental organizations and addiction experts.

The objective of Canada's Drug Strategy is to reduce the harmful effects of substance abuse on individuals, families and communities by addressing both the supply and demand sides of the problem. It balances prevention measures on the one hand with interdiction/enforcement measures on the other. It is founded on the premise that long-term reduction in substance abuse can be achieved only by addressing the root cause of the problem — the demand. Thus, about 70% of Canada's Drug Strategy resources are directed at the priority areas of prevention and treatment.

When Canada's Drug Strategy was launched, the federal government allocated \$210 million over five years to enhance existing programs and to fund new initiatives. Seven federal departments received funding for new initiatives under the leadership of Health and Welfare Canada. Some federal departments received new funding for programs already in existence when Canada's Drug Strategy was announced. Others subsequently developed or are in the process of developing programs related to combating alcohol and other drug abuse. At the present time, 14 federal departments and agencies, all of the provincial and territorial governments, hundreds of non-governmental organizations and thousands of individuals and community groups can be counted as partners in Canada's Drug Strategy.

Related publications



Within the framework of Canada's Drug Strategy, Health and Welfare Canada published three baseline studies: Alcohol in Canada (1989), Licit and Illicit Drugs in Canada (1989) and How Effective Are Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention and Treatment Programs?: A Review of Evaluation Studies (1992), as well as a series of reports based on the 1989 survey, including the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989): Highlights Report (1990), Smoking Behaviour of Canadians (1992) and Alcohol and Other Drug Use by Canadian Youth (1992).

Other collaborative research projects between Health and Welfare Canada and almost 100 researchers across Canada aiming to address specific research issues relating to health effects of alcohol and other drug use and alcohol and other drug use among women, the elderly and ethnic groups, among other topics, are under way. Health and Welfare Canada intends to report findings from these studies in a summary form to better inform Canadians, practitioners and policy makers.

Further, several related publications may be obtained from the provinces: see, for example, "Portrait de la consommation d'alcool et de drogues au Québec" (1991), New Brunswick Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey: Highlights Report (1991) and Prince Edward Island Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey: Highlights Report (1991).

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The survey team consisted of Marc Eliany, Project Manager for the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Dr. Norman Giesbrecht of the Addiction Research Foundation, who acted as principal advisor, and Dr. Mike Nelson, special advisor to the Health Services and Promotion Branch of Health and Welfare Canada. The authors of this report and the survey team are indebted to the staff of the Health Promotion Directorate, in particular the Alcohol and Other Drugs Unit and the Health Promotion Studies Unit. We thank Dr. Tariq Bhatti and Claude Roy for comments and advice as Health and Welfare Canada internal reviewers.

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Introduction

This volume offers a social topography of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Canadian society. In this, it joins a tradition of national studies of drinking, smoking or drug use that would include by now most countries in northern Europe as well as North America, and some other countries as well. In comparison with these other national studies, however, the present study has an unusually broad scope: it includes data from a very large number of respondents, enough to be able to give detailed results for each Canadian province separately; it includes coverage of use of alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs and psychopharmaceuticals in the same survey; and, at least for some drugs, it covers an unusually large range of aspects. Thus, for alcohol, about which the most extensive information is collected, the survey's respondents tell us not only about their own patterns and contexts of drinking, reasons for drinking or not drinking and norms concerning drinking or drunkenness, but also about their experience of harm from their own drinking, their knowledge and experience of problems from other people's drinking and their attitudes towards policy alternatives concerning the availability of alcohol and the handling of alcohol-related problems. As there is no single other national survey that combines all these aspects, the authors are forced to draw on a variety of different studies, some quite local in scope, to situate their results in the relevant worldwide literature.

The report relies directly on what 11,634 Canadians said when an unknown person called them on the telephone and persuaded them to respond to a roster of questions for half an hour or so. Like all surveys, the study thus relies not only on the kindness but also on the veracity of strangers. For some of the topics covered, there is by definition no alternative source against which to check validity: a respondent's opinion at a given moment on a policy issue is whatever he or she says it is. For other topics, there are alternative sources: reports of alcohol or tobacco use patterns, for instance, can be checked against production or sales statistics, and the patterning of reports of troubles with the police can be checked against police statistics.

As the authors note in the course of their analysis, the patterns reported by respondents in general check out against the relevant Canadian social and health statistics. By and large, the respondents seem to be doing their best to tell the truth as they understand it to the persistent stranger on the phone. However, this does not preclude some shading of the truth, some forgetting and even denial, in this as in other surveys about potentially embarrassing behaviours. We know, for instance, that respondents overall tend to underestimate their consumption of alcoholic beverages quite substantially; their reports of their own consumption typically add up to only 40% to 60% of the alcohol that has been sold — and we also know that relatively little alcohol is thrown away rather than consumed! This giving oneself the benefit of the doubt, being more likely to mention the mote than the beam, may be involved also in the discrepancy between the relatively high proportions of respondents reporting being annoyed or harmed by someone else's drinking and the much lower rates reported of one's own drinking harming relations with others. This discrepancy also undoubtedly reflects a characteristic of alcohol- and other drug-related problems: one person's problematic behaviour often impacts on many others. There is good reason, therefore, to expect what the survey finds — that more people know about or have experience of others' problems than have problems related to their own drinking or other drug use.

The present volume gives a report for Canada as a whole, but in the course of this it also describes patterns for a variety of subdivisions. Mostly what it presents is what survey researchers would describe as a “demographics” of its topics — how drinking, smoking and other drug attitudes, use patterns, problems and so on are distributed by such social differentiations as gender, age, educational level, province of residence and mother tongue. These conventional divisions, of course, are not inventions of the researcher but reflect discriminations with fateful implications that are made in everyday life. The divisions thus tap large differences in respondents' life experiences. The nature of the differences, however, varies from one demographic characteristic to another. Respondents of the same age at a given moment share both the history they have lived through and the length of life

experience they have accumulated, and both these characteristics mark them off from those of a very different age, even those who may live in the same household. Age mates also tend to be at a common life stage in terms of schooling, family formation, parenting and so on. Gender imposes another set of commonalities and differences: although members of a gender share with each other some common experiences, they tend to live among and thus share with members of the other gender a history of interactions. In terms of its implications, mother tongue differs yet again: the shared experience of Francophone and Anglophone Canadians often does not extend to living in day-to-day contact or communication with each other. Still more, province of residence carries the implication that there will be little face-to-face interaction between, say, a resident of British Columbia and one of Prince Edward Island: their commonalities are at the level of the cultural and societal.

While there are many ways of thinking about the demographic differentiations used in this report, one rough distinction we can make is in terms of the degree of social interaction we may expect between those in different categories of the variable. Gender lies at one end of this continuum: most men and women are in daily interaction with members of the other gender. Even in an era when we do not expect to find the extended family under one roof, there is sufficient communication across age grades to regard age and marital status as lying towards the interactive end of the scale. Residential segregation by income and the specialization of labour probably put education and employment status more in the middle of the scale. At the far end, with the least interaction to be expected between categories in daily life, would be found mother tongue and province of residence.

In the absence of data, we might have predicted that the biggest differences in drinking and other drug use and attitudes would be found for those demographics that imply the least social interaction between their categories. This prediction would have been guided by two rationales. The first would have projected onto the behaviour and norms a form of social Darwinism: just as a barrier on interaction separates gene pools and produces a differentiation of species, many cultural patterns — for instance, dialects and languages — also diverge as interaction is attenuated. A second reason, to some extent the obverse of the first, would be the inherently social

nature of drinking and marijuana use, at least, and also, in a more limited sense, of tobacco smoking. Given this, we would expect a strong mutual influence of those in close proximity on each other's norms and behaviours.

In terms of the actual findings of the study, such a prediction turns out to be largely wrong. Some differences indeed emerge, for example, by mother tongue: Francophone Canadians are somewhat more partial to tranquillizers, sleeping pills and tobacco, Anglophones to prescription opiates such as codeine. With respect to reasons for drinking, Francophones put more emphasis on adding to the enjoyment of meals, Anglophones on sociability. But, in an international perspective, even these differences are often rather small. On many matters, those in the "two solitudes" seem to act in parallel and speak with one voice. Thus, in many respects, the drinking patterns of Ontarians and Quebeckers seem indistinguishable. Likewise, in comparison with the substantial regional variations in the United States (Clark and Hilton 1991), the differences between Canadian regions and provinces in proportions of abstainers and in rates of heavy drinking are rather small. When we turn to issues that are more a matter of public discourse, such as opinions on alcohol policy options, the unanimity of Canadians by province and by mother tongue is striking.

At the other end of the interactional spectrum, in Canada as elsewhere, the differences are often quite large. As Genevieve Knupfer pointed out long ago, knowing just the respondent's gender and age allows one to predict fairly confidently whether the respondent is an abstainer or a heavy drinker. Although their disagreements are not huge, Canadian women and men differ systematically in the proportions favouring more restrictive alcohol policies. Opinions on the decriminalization of marijuana are highly differentiated by age.

The pattern of actual findings suggests two conclusions. In the first place, it suggests that contagion and mutual influence are only part of the story of the social nature of drinking and marijuana use. Drinking, pot smoking and, for that matter, cigarette smoking and much other drug use are also a performance in front of an audience — an audience that includes other users, but also includes those who are excluded or who exclude themselves from the

behaviour. Drug use — and, for that matter, abstaining from drug use — carries with it a complex load of connotations, of signals to an audience — intimate or public — about who the signaller is and who he or she is not. Drawing on Bourdieu's thinking in *La distinction*, Sulkunen (1989) has interpreted the social and temporal patterning of drinking in France in terms of the messages about status and distinction that alcoholic beverage choices and drinking patterns carry. In this perspective, the differences in drinking and drug use attitudes and behaviours between genders, generations and other interacting status groups in Canada may be seen as reflecting the fact that the behaviours and attitudes often sustain and symbolize social barriers and status differentiations.

In the second place, the pattern of findings suggests that drinking and other drug use are not currently an arena for social distinction and differentiation along the main Canadian political fault-lines. As already mentioned, Canadian regional differences on drinking and other drug issues seem modest compared to the differences found between U.S. regions. At the level of detail available in the present report, drinking and other drug use also do not seem to be a major arena for interethnic distinctions, characterizations and performances. Again, this seems to be in contrast with findings in the United States, where ostensive ethnic drinking patterns have been interpreted as a form of status protest (Lurie 1971; Stivers 1976; Room 1985). Perhaps some reflection of such differentiations can be seen in the present report in the generally less boisterous drinking patterns of Canadians whose mother tongue is neither English nor French. However, it would be difficult indeed to tell Anglophone and Francophone Canadians apart on the basis of their general attitudes and practices concerning drinking.

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April 1992

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Chapter 1:

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Highlights

- During March of 1989, 11,634 Canadians aged 15 and over were interviewed by telephone regarding their use of alcohol and other drugs. The sampling frame consisted of randomly selected households from the ten provinces, resulting in a response rate of 77%.

Part One: Drinking in Canada

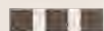


- Approximately eight of ten (78%) adult Canadians reported consuming at least one alcoholic beverage in the 12 months prior to the survey. These people are referred to as *current drinkers* throughout this report. An additional 16% of the population are *former drinkers*, having consumed alcohol at some time earlier in their lives, whereas 7% reported that they have never consumed an alcoholic beverage (*lifetime abstainers*).
- Over half of current drinkers report using alcohol less than once a week, and one out of four drinks less than once a month. Eleven percent report a drinking frequency of four or more times a week.
- The average current drinker consumes 3.7 drinks per week.
- When queried about alcohol use during the week before the survey, almost one-half of the current drinkers reported that they had not used alcohol. An additional 38% reported consuming between one and seven drinks, 8% consumed eight to 13 drinks and 8% consumed 14 drinks or more.
- In this report, heavy drinking behaviour is defined as consuming five or more alcoholic beverages on a single occasion. Half of the current drinkers reported never having drunk heavily during the 12 months preceding the survey; the other half reported heavy drinking in varying frequencies.
- Fewer adult Canadians are drinking, more have stopped drinking and those who are drinking are drinking less. The percentage of adult Canadians who reported having consumed alcohol in the 12 months preceding the survey (current drinkers) appears to have decreased four percentage points from 1978–1979 (the date of a major Canada-wide health survey) to the 1989 level of 78%. Concurrently, there has been an increase of 11 percentage points in the percentage of adult Canadians who are former drinkers, reporting that although they had consumed alcohol in the past they had not done so in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- Current levels of consumption are also lower. Between 1978–1979 and 1989, there has been an increase of 11 percentage points in current drinkers who report drinking less than once per month on the average and a decrease of 15 percentage points in those who consume alcohol once per month or more often. In 1985, the average current drinker consumed 5.1 drinks per week, compared to 3.7 drinks in 1989 — a decrease of 1.4 drinks per week.
- The percentage of persons who are current drinkers tends to increase from east to west, with Prince Edward Island having the lowest percentage of current drinkers (64%) and British Columbia the highest (83%).
- Among current drinkers, people living in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia have the highest levels of alcohol consumption (an average of 3.9 drinks in Quebec and Ontario, 3.8 in British Columbia during the week prior to the survey).
- Although current drinkers from the Atlantic provinces tend to drink less frequently than their counterparts from other regions, they tend to consume more alcohol on the occasions when they do drink. Interestingly, Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia are the only provinces that fall below the national average of 2.8 drinks per occasion. However, the residents of these provinces tend to drink more frequently, resulting in higher levels of weekly consumption.

- Current drinkers from the Atlantic provinces are also more likely than drinkers from other provinces to take part in heavy drinking behaviour. For example, 30% of Newfoundlanders consumed five or more drinks on at least six occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to approximately 20% of the drinkers from Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.
- A higher percentage of younger Canadians use alcohol. The highest percentage of current drinkers is found among those who are between 20 and 24 years of age (88%), and the lowest percentage is found among those who are 65 years of age and older (54%).
- Although older drinkers tend to consume alcohol more frequently than their younger counterparts, young drinkers consume more alcohol per drinking occasion. Younger drinkers are also more likely than older drinkers to engage in heavy drinking activity.
- Trends since 1985 suggest that the greatest decrease in alcohol consumption among adult Canadians took place among the youngest and oldest segments of the population.
- A higher percentage of adult Canadian men (84%) than women (72%) are current drinkers. The gap between men and women increases with age.
- Men consume alcohol more frequently and in greater quantity than do women. Overall, men report consuming an average of 5.3 drinks per week, compared to 2.0 drinks for women.
- There is a positive relationship between education and the prevalence of alcohol consumption. For example, 87% of Canadians with a university degree reported consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 66% of those who did not complete secondary school. Differences between educational categories are greater among women than men.
- Although current drinkers from the higher educational categories tend to drink more frequently, drinkers from the lower educational categories tend to consume more alcohol per occasion.
- Canadians with a university degree are least likely to engage in heavy drinking activity. Only 5% of the current drinkers from this educational category reported that they consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to 13% of the current drinkers who have not completed secondary school.
- In general, alcohol use is more prevalent among Canadians with high household incomes. For example, 92% of Canadians in households earning \$60,000 or more reported drinking in the year preceding the survey, compared to 60% of those in households earning less than \$10,000.
- Alcohol consumption is more prevalent among Canadians who are actively involved in the work force. Approximately 86% of those who are employed reported that they used alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 82% of those who are looking for work, 77% of students, 63% of those keeping house and 59% of those who are retired. Canadians holding managerial or professional jobs are somewhat more likely to be current drinkers (88%) than those holding blue- or other white-collar positions (86% and 82%, respectively).
- The rate of alcohol use is much higher among employed women than among those who are keeping house. Women in managerial/professional or other white-collar positions are also noticeably more likely to be current drinkers than those holding blue-collar jobs. Differences between men from these employment categories are not as pronounced.
- Eighty-two percent of single Canadians are current drinkers, compared to 79% of married individuals, 78% of those who are divorced and 76% of those who are separated. Widowed Canadians are least likely to be current drinkers. Only 49% of this group reported consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey. This finding is largely attributable to the high proportion of women and seniors among the widowed population.

- There are no substantial differences between Anglophones and Francophones in the prevalence or level of alcohol use. However, a lower percentage of those who speak a language other than English or French at home are current drinkers. They also consume fewer drinks per week.

Part Two: Tobacco Use



- Approximately one out of every three Canadians (32%) — or about 6.5 million individuals — are current smokers. An additional 26% of the population are former smokers, having used tobacco at some time in the past but not at the time of the survey. Over two-fifths of the population (42%) report that they have never smoked cigarettes.
- Approximately half of Canadians (44%) who had ever smoked had quit by 1989.
- Almost all current smokers (99%) are regular (daily) smokers. Over 70% of all current smokers usually consume 11 or more cigarettes per day.
- A comparison of results from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey with data from other Canadian surveys leads to the conclusion that the prevalence of smoking in Canada has stabilized over the last several years. After a steady and impressive decline from 50% of the adult population in 1965 to 34% in 1984, the decline appears to have slowed or stalled in recent years.
- The data suggest that men (33%) are only slightly more likely than women (31%) to be current smokers. Men are more likely than women to smoke heavily.
- Current smokers are most likely to be found among young and middle-aged adults. Teens and seniors have a prevalence rate that is below the national rate of 32%. Heavy smoking is most prevalent among Canadians between 35 and 54 years of age.
- The data suggest that there is a negative relationship between smoking and both income and education.

- Canadians who are or have been cigarette smokers are more likely to be current drinkers than those who have never smoked. The data also suggest that there is a positive relationship between level of alcohol consumption and smoking status. Current smokers have the highest level of weekly consumption (5.2 drinks per week), followed by former smokers (3.9 drinks) and lifetime non-smokers (2.4 drinks).

Part Three: Other Drugs



- Cannabis (marijuana or hashish) is the most commonly used illicit substance in Canada. Over 4.5 million Canadians (approximately 23% of the total population) have used marijuana or hashish at some time in their lives. Over one million Canadians (6.5%) are current users (i.e., they reported using this substance in the year preceding the survey).
- Almost half of current users (48.6%) report using marijuana less than once per month. An additional 24.8% use it between one and three times a month, whereas 22.4% consume marijuana once a week or more often.
- As with all illicit drugs, the rate of use of cannabis is higher among men than women.
- Marijuana use is much more prevalent among younger than older Canadians. The highest rates of lifetime use are reported by Canadians age 20 to 34 (43.1%), followed by people age 35 to 44 (25.8%) and 15 to 19 (23.2%). By contrast, only 2.4% of Canadians age 55 to 64 and 1.2% of Canadians 65 and over report ever using this substance. The highest rate of current cannabis usage is among Canadians age 20 to 24 (18.4%), followed by those age 15 to 19 (12.3%) and those age 25 to 34 (10.5%). The proportion of the population 45 and over reporting use during the year preceding the survey is negligible.
- Students (14.1%) and those looking for employment (12.4%) have higher rates of current cannabis use than those who are currently employed.

- The data indicate that cocaine or crack has been used by over 710,000 adult Canadians (3.5%). Approximately 280,000 Canadians (1.4%) reported using cocaine or crack in the year preceding the survey.
- In terms of both lifetime and current use, the rate of use of cocaine is consistently higher among men than women.
- As with cannabis, the use of cocaine is concentrated in the younger age categories. The highest rate of use is reported by Canadians age 25 to 34 (8.6%) and those age 20 to 24 (7.0%).
- The highest rates of lifetime use of cocaine or crack are reported in British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta.
- Cocaine use is apparently much less prevalent in Canada than in the United States. In 1988, 12% of 18 to 25 year old Americans reported that they had used cocaine in the year prior to being surveyed. In Canada, the rate of cocaine use within this age group is approximately 3% — one-quarter of the U.S. rate.
- Although 4.1% of adult Canadians (or approximately 800,000 individuals) have used LSD, speed or heroin at some time in their lives, less than 1% (approximately 80,000 individuals) reported using it in the year preceding the survey.
- The results of the survey suggest that over one million Canadians (5.0%) used a prescription opiate (codeine, demerol or morphine) in the 30 days preceding the survey.
- Unlike sleeping pills and tranquillizers, the use of prescription opiates is slightly more prevalent among younger people. For example, 6.2% of those between 20 and 24 years of age reported using this type of drug in the month preceding the survey, compared to 4.0% of those 65 years of age and over.
- Regardless of age, a higher proportion of women than men use prescription opiates or narcotics.
- Approximately 730,000 adult Canadians (3.6% of the total population) used sleeping pills during the 30 days prior to the survey.
- Sleeping pill use is much more common among older than younger Canadians. The highest percentage of users is found among those 65 years of age and older. Approximately one out of every ten Canadians in this age category (11.1%) reported that they used sleeping pills in the 30 days preceding the survey, compared to 1.3% of individuals between 25 and 34 years of age.
- As with all other licit substances, the rate of sleeping pill use is higher among women than men. This gender difference exists in all age categories.
- Quebec is the only province where the percentage of Canadians using sleeping pills (4.5%) is greater than the national rate (3.6%). All other provinces are at or below the national rate.
- Approximately 630,000 adult Canadians (or 3.1% of the total population) used tranquillizers in the 30 days prior to the survey.
- The data also indicate that there is a positive relationship between age and the prevalence of tranquillizer use. For example, only 1.4% of those between 20 and 24 years of age used this drug in the month prior to the survey, compared to 5.4% of those 65 and over.
- Regardless of age, the rate of tranquillizer use is significantly higher among women than men.
- The highest rates of tranquillizer use are found among the residents of Quebec and New Brunswick. Consistent with regional findings, a higher percentage of Francophones than Anglophones reported tranquillizer use during the 30 days prior to the survey.

Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to provide a profile of alcohol and other drug use in Canada. Emphasis is placed not only on the prevalence of various licit and illicit substances, but also on the social characteristics of the people who use them. Such information is essential because it helps to establish a basis for identifying groups or individuals who should be targeted in health promotion activities.

Part One of this chapter examines patterns of alcohol consumption. Part Two focuses on the prevalence of tobacco use. Part Three examines the use of other drugs: licit and illicit. Each section begins with a brief description of the variables used in the analysis and concludes with a discussion of how the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey compare with the results of other relevant Canadian and international research. Possible explanations for the observed relationships between alcohol and other drug use and their correlates are also reviewed.

Part One: Drinking in Canada

Definitions

Throughout this report, the term *current drinkers* is used to describe those Canadians who consumed at least one drink in the 12 months preceding the survey (Q12 in Appendix B). This definition was used in the 1985 Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988) and is also standard in U.S. research (e.g., Clark and Midanik 1982).

A *drink* is defined as:

- one bottle of beer or glass of draft; or
- one glass of wine or a wine cooler; or
- one straight or mixed drink with 44 ml (1.5 oz.) of distilled spirits.

Canadians who have consumed alcohol at some time in their lives but not during the 12 months preceding the survey are referred to as *former drinkers*. Those individuals who report that they have “never” consumed an alcoholic beverage are referred to as *lifetime abstainers*.

Level of alcohol consumption refers to both *frequency* and *quantity* of use. Frequency refers to how often, on average, Canadians consumed alcoholic beverages in the 12 months preceding the survey (Q19 in Appendix B). Quantity is based upon responses to survey questions about the number of alcoholic beverages consumed by the respondents during each of the seven days preceding the interview (Q24 in Appendix B). Weekly consumption estimates are based upon responses to these questions. Another “quantity” measure discussed in this report refers to the usual number of drinks consumed per drinking occasion (Q20 in Appendix B).

Finally, the survey also examined episodes of *heavy drinking activity*. Heavy drinking is commonly defined as the consumption of five or more drinks on a single occasion (Johnston et al. 1989; Chamberlayne et al. 1988). Consistent with past research, heavy drinking activity is operationalized in this report as the number of times in the 12 months preceding the survey the respondent consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion (Q22 in Appendix B).

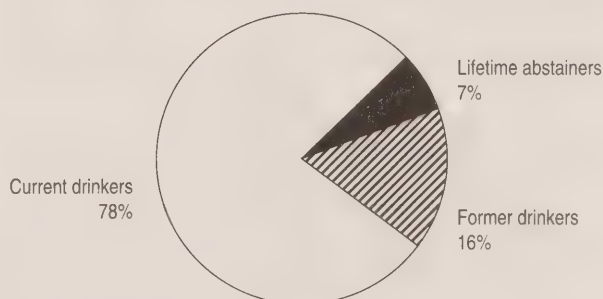
Prevalence of Alcohol Consumption

Approximately eight out of every ten Canadians (78%) 15 years of age and over reported consuming at least one alcoholic beverage during the 12 months prior to the 1989 survey. An additional 16% of the population are former drinkers, having consumed alcohol at some time in their lives but not within the 12 months preceding the survey. Thus, 93% of Canadians report having experienced some alcohol consumption. Only 7% report that they have never consumed an alcoholic beverage (Figure 1 and Table 1).

Preliminary analysis suggests that, for most Canadians, alcohol consumption is a relatively infrequent activity (Figure 2). One out of every four drinkers reports drinking, on average, less than once per month. An additional 25% drink between one and three times per month. Thus, over half of all current drinkers report consuming alcohol less than once per week. Thirty-eight percent of current drinkers usually consume alcohol between one and three times per week. One out of every ten (11%) drinks four or more times per week. The average drinker consumes approximately 2.8 drinks per drinking occasion (Table 2).

Almost one-half of all current drinkers did not consume a drink in the week prior to the survey (Figure 3). This finding is consistent with the fact that about half of all current drinkers report drinking

Figure 1:
The drinking status of Canadians, age 15+, 1989



less than once per week. Approximately 38% of current drinkers consumed between one and seven drinks in the week preceding the survey, while 8% consumed between eight and 13 drinks. Eight percent of current drinkers consumed 14 drinks or more in the week preceding the survey — an average of at least two drinks per day.

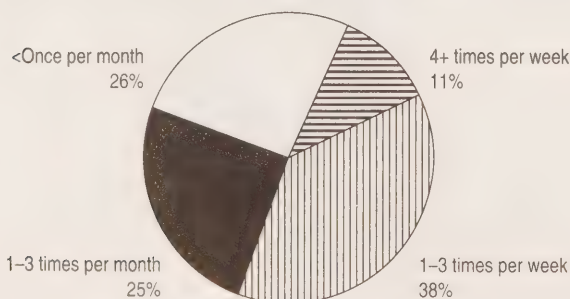
Preliminary analysis indicates that current drinkers consume an average of 3.7 drinks per week (Table 1).

In terms of heavy drinking behaviour, half of all current drinkers reported never having consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion during the 12 months preceding the survey. More than one-quarter drank at this level on one to five occasions. One out of every ten drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion between six and 14 times, and 12% did so 15 or more times (Figure 4 and Table 3).

General Trends

Data from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey on types of drinkers can be compared with similar data collected during the 1978–1979 Canada Health Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1981) and the 1985 Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988). In general, these comparisons suggest a trend towards moderation in drinking: fewer Canadians are drinking, more have stopped drinking and those who are drinking are drinking less.

Figure 2:
Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The prevalence of alcohol consumption in Canada has declined slightly over the last decade (Table 4). Although the percentage of Canadians who report that they have consumed alcohol sometime in their lives has increased from 86% in 1978–1979 to 93% in 1989, more Canadians have given up using alcohol or have reduced their level of consumption. There has been an increase of 11 percentage points in those Canadians who report they are now former drinkers and a decrease of four percentage points in current drinkers. This decline may be due to changes in the demographic structure of the population, changes in attitudes about alcohol use or a combination of these two factors.

Figure 3:
Number of drinks consumed by current drinkers in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

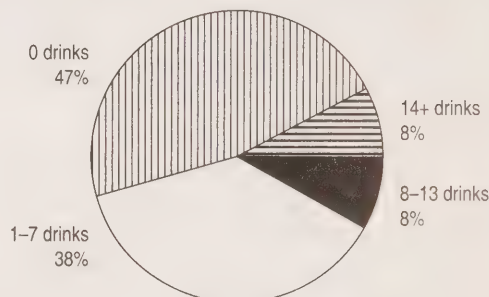
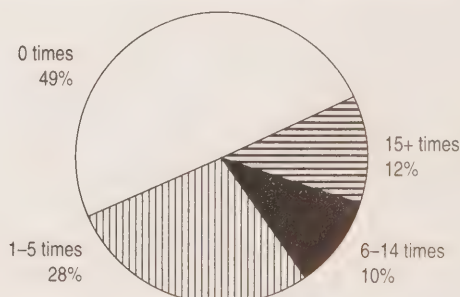


Figure 4:
Number of times that current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The data also suggest that current levels of alcohol consumption are lower. Between 1978–1979 and 1989, there was an increase of 11 percentage points in the number of *occasional drinkers* — those who report drinking, on average, less than once per month. On the other hand, there has been a decrease of 15 percentage points in the number of *frequent drinkers* — those who consume alcohol once per month or more often (Table 4). Furthermore, the average current drinker consumed 5.1 drinks per week in 1985, compared to 3.7 drinks in 1989 — a drop of 1.4 drinks per week (data not tabulated in report).

These findings are consistent with sales data that also reveal declining per capita consumption since 1980. Statistics Canada uses sales figures to prepare annual per capita alcohol consumption estimates. These estimates suggest that following a period of rapid increase from 1970 to 1975, alcohol consumption stabilized until 1981 and has declined since that time. For example, the per capita estimate for all persons ages 15 and older rose approximately 25% between 1970 and 1975. However, it increased only 1% between 1975 and 1981. Between 1982 and 1986, there was an 8% decline (Statistics Canada 1987a).

Patterns of Alcohol Use

Region

As was mentioned above, 78% of the residents of the ten provinces are current drinkers. However, there is variation among regions in this country. In general, the percentage of current alcohol users increases from east to west, with Prince Edward Island having the lowest percentage of current drinkers (64%) and British Columbia the highest (83%). The prevalence rates for Quebec, Ontario and Saskatchewan are very close to the national rate, whereas the rates for the four western provinces except Saskatchewan are above the national rate (Figure 5).

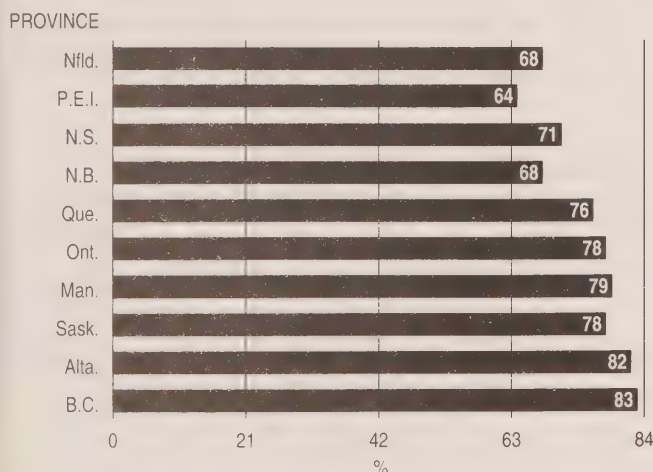
Among those who do drink, the residents of the Atlantic and Prairie provinces tend to consume alcohol less frequently than do the residents of other provinces (Table 2).

Estimates of the average number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey suggest that Quebec and Ontario have the highest overall levels of alcohol consumption (3.9 drinks per week), followed closely by British Columbia (3.8 drinks). Alberta and Newfoundland both have weekly consumption levels that are at the national average (3.7 drinks). All other provinces fall below this level (Table 1).

Although current drinkers from the Atlantic provinces tend to drink less frequently than their counterparts from other regions, they tend to consume more alcohol on the occasions when they do drink (Figure 6 and Table 2). Drinkers from Newfoundland consume an average of 3.7 drinks per occasion, followed by New Brunswick (3.5 drinks) and Prince Edward Island (3.5 drinks). Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia are the only provinces that fall below the national average of 2.8 drinks per occasion. However, the residents of these provinces tend to drink more frequently, resulting in relatively high levels of weekly consumption.

Current drinkers from the Atlantic provinces are also more likely than those from other provinces to take part in heavy drinking behaviour (Figure 7 and Table 3). For example, 30% of Newfoundlanders consumed five or more drinks on at least six occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to

Figure 5:
Percentage of current drinkers, by province,
age 15+, Canada, 1989



approximately 20% of the drinkers from Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

Age

Results from this survey indicate an increase in the percentage of users from age 15 through the early 20s. Thereafter, there is an inverse relationship between age and alcohol use. The highest percentage of current drinkers is found among those who are between 20 and 24 years of age (88%), and the lowest percentage is found among those who are 65 years of age and older (54%) (Figure 8 and Table 5).

There are some differences between age groups in terms of the average number of drinks consumed per week (Table 5). For example, those aged 20 to 24 years consume an average of 4.3 drinks per week, compared to 3.5 drinks for those 65 years of age and over. Nine percent of current drinkers in both the 20 to 24 and 65 and over categories consumed 14 or more drinks during the week prior to the survey.

There is considerable variation in consumption pattern by age. In general, older drinkers consume alcohol more frequently than their younger counterparts (Figure 9 and Table 6). For example, 22% of current drinkers 65 years of age and over report drinking four or more times per week, compared to only 2% of

those between 15 and 19 years of age and 5% of those between 20 and 24.

Although older drinkers drink more frequently, younger drinkers consume more alcohol per drinking occasion (Figure 10 and Table 6). For example, those aged 20 to 24 consume an average of 3.9 drinks per occasion, followed by those 15 to 19 years of age (3.5 drinks). Current drinkers who are 65 years of age and older consume, on average, 1.7 drinks per occasion.

Figure 7:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

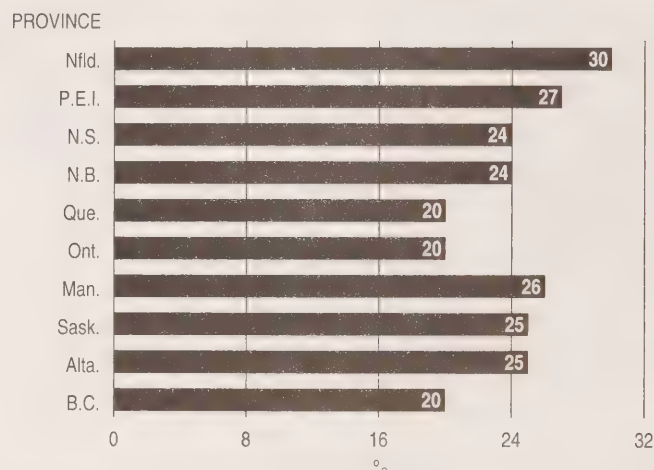


Figure 6:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

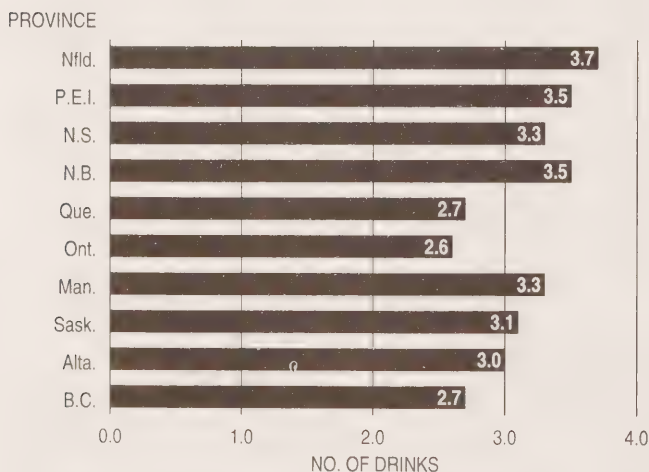
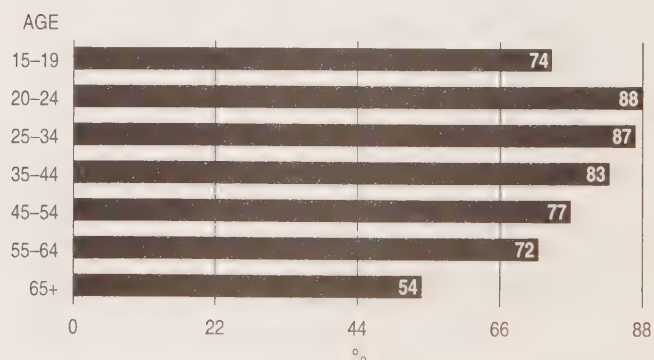


Figure 8:
Percentage of current drinkers, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Younger drinkers are also more likely than older drinkers to engage in heavy drinking (Figure 11 and Table 7). For example, 23% of current drinkers between 20 and 24 years of age reported that they consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year prior to the survey, compared to 4% of those 65 years of age and older.

Sex

Overall, 84% of men 15 years of age and older reported using alcohol during the year prior to the survey, compared to 72% of women. In all age groups,

Figure 9:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol four times per week or more often in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

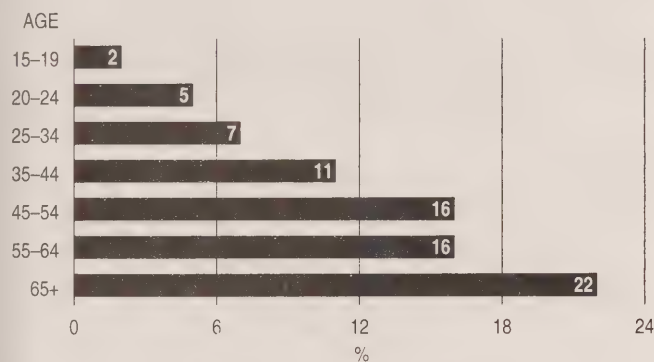
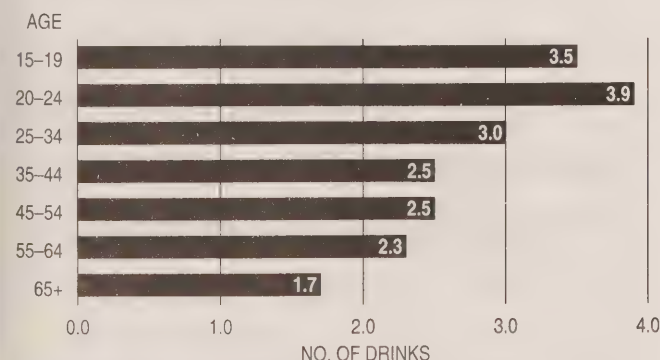


Figure 10:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

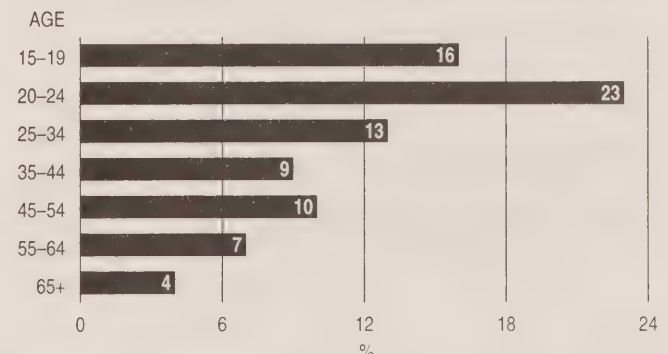


a higher percentage of Canadian men than women are current drinkers (Figure 12 and Table 5).

Differences in the percentage of male and female alcohol users tend to increase with age. There are small differences among the youngest age groupings and substantial differences in the higher age categories (Figure 12). For example, among those aged 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 years, the differences between male and female drinking rates are four and ten percentage points, respectively. By contrast, among those 65 years of age and older, the difference is 20 percentage points. A notable exception to the sizeable male-female differences in the higher age categories is in the 35 to 44 age category, where men (85%) are only slightly more likely than women (81%) to report current alcohol use.

The findings also indicate that, regardless of age, men consume alcohol more frequently than women (Figure 13) and in greater quantity (Figure 14). For example, 61% of male current drinkers report that they consume alcohol at least once per week, compared to 36% of female current drinkers. Furthermore, 15% of male drinkers report that they consume alcohol four or more times per week, compared to 6% of female drinkers (Table 6). In terms of quantity, men consume an average of 3.3 drinks per occasion, compared to 2.2 drinks for women (Figure 14 and Table 6).

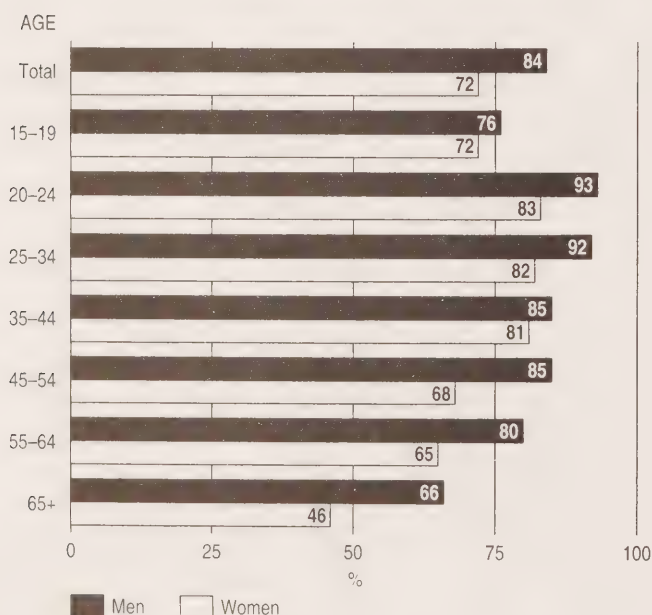
Figure 11:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Estimates of the number of drinks consumed in the week prior to the survey also serve to highlight male-female differences in drinking behaviour (Figures 15 and 16). For example, 12% of male drinkers reported consuming 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 3% of female drinkers. Similarly, 11% of male drinkers consumed between eight and 13 drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 4% of female drinkers (Table 5). Overall, men report consuming an average of 5.3 drinks per week, compared to 2.0 drinks for women. Men aged 20 to 24 consume more drinks per week (6.1) than any other group. Among women, the level of consumption is highest among those aged 45 to 54 (2.7 drinks per week).

The results also indicate that men are much more likely than women to engage in heavy drinking activity (Figure 17 and Table 7). For example, approximately 32% of male drinkers reported consuming five or more drinks on at least six occasions in the year prior to the survey, compared to 10% of female drinkers. On the other hand, 64% of women report that they never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion, compared to 37% of men.

Figure 12:
Percentage of current drinkers, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

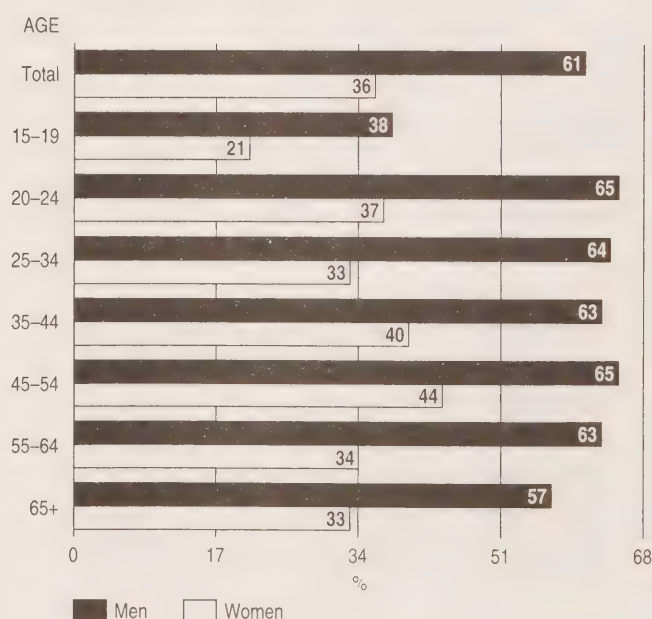


Education

The findings suggest that there is a positive relationship between education and the prevalence of alcohol consumption (Figure 18 and Table 8). For example, 87% of Canadians with a university degree reported consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 66% of those who did not complete secondary school. Differences between educational categories are greater among women than men. Fifty-seven percent of women with less than secondary school education consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 84% of women with a university degree — a difference of 27 percentage points. By contrast, there is a difference of 15 percentage points between men in these respective educational categories. Thus, the percentage of women who are current drinkers rises more rapidly with more education than does the percentage of men (Figure 18).

Gender differences in the percentage of current drinkers are smallest among those with higher

Figure 13:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol once per week or more often in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



education (Figure 18). For example, 90% of the men and 84% of the women with a university degree are current drinkers — a difference of six percentage points. By contrast, 75% of the men and 57% of the women with less than secondary school education are current drinkers — a difference of 18 percentage points.

Current drinkers with a university degree are most likely to report frequent alcohol consumption (Table 9). Fifteen percent of this group drink, on average, four or more times per week, compared to approximately 10% of those in other educational categories. Furthermore, 58% of drinkers with a university degree consume alcohol at least once per week, compared to 51% of those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 50% of those who completed secondary school and 42% of those with less than a secondary school education (Table 9).

Although current drinkers from the higher educational categories tend to drink more frequently, drinkers from the lower educational categories tend

to consume more alcohol per occasion (Figure 19 and Table 9). For example, drinkers who have not completed secondary school consume, on average, 3.1 drinks per occasion, compared to 2.1 drinks for those with a university degree.

Weekly consumption estimates reveal only small differences, ranging from 3.5 to 3.9 drinks, between educational groups (Table 8). Canadians with a university degree are least likely to engage in heavy drinking activity (Figure 20 and Table 10). Only 6% of current drinkers from the highest educational category reported that they consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to 12% and 13% of the current drinkers in all other educational categories.

The findings discussed in this section should be interpreted with more than the usual caution. Some respondents — especially those in their teens and 20s — are still completing their education, and the concurrent effects of such other relevant variables as age and birth cohort have not been controlled in this study.

Figure 14:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

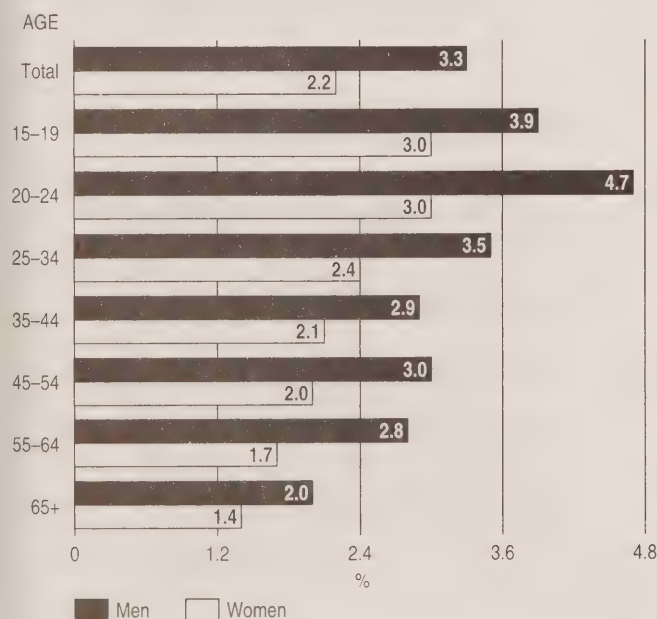
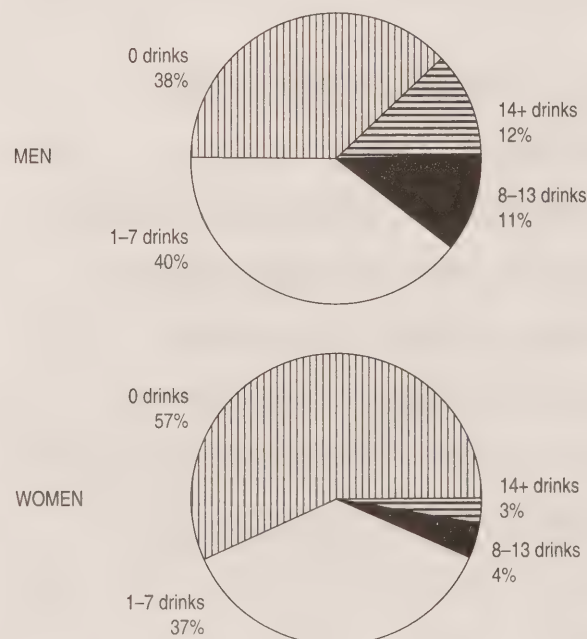


Figure 15:
Number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Income

In general, alcohol use is more prevalent among Canadians with higher household incomes (Figure 21). Ninety-two percent of Canadians living in households earning \$60,000 or more are current drinkers, compared to 60% of those with a household income of less than \$10,000 (Table 11).

As with education, differences between income categories are greater among women than men. For example, 52% of women with a household income of less than \$10,000 are current drinkers, compared to 92% of women with a household income of \$60,000 or more — a difference of 40 percentage points. By contrast, there is a difference of only 16 percentage points between men in these respective income categories. Thus, the percentage of women who are current drinkers increases more rapidly with increased household income than does the percentage of men (Figure 21).

Differences between the percentages of male and female current drinkers decrease as income levels increase. There is a difference of 24 percentage points between men and women living in households earning

Figure 16:
Average number of drinks consumed per week,
by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

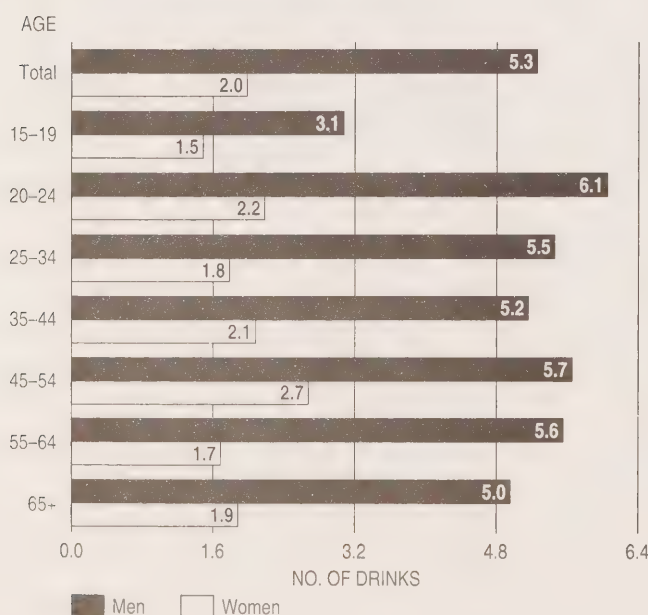


Figure 17:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed
five or more drinks on six or more occasions in
the year preceding the survey, by age and sex,
age 15+, Canada, 1989

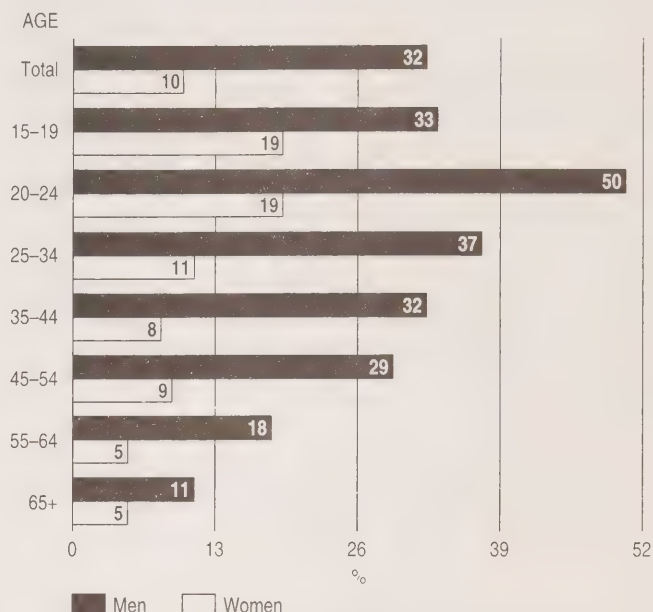
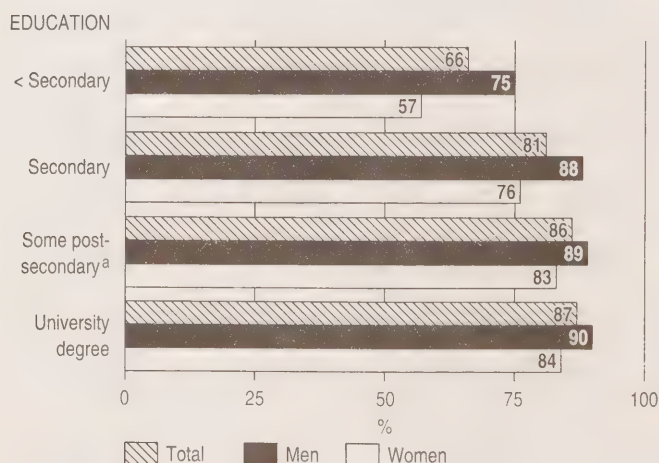


Figure 18:
Percentage of current drinkers, by education
and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



^a The terms "Some post-secondary" in figures and "Some post-secondary school education and non-university degree" in text and tables refer to partial or total completion of post-secondary school education except for attainment of a university degree.

less than \$10,000 per year, compared to a difference of less than one percentage point for those living in households earning \$60,000 or more (Figure 21 and Table 11).

The data also suggest that there is a positive relationship between household income and the frequency of alcohol consumption (Figure 22 and Table 12). For example, 37% of those in the lowest income group report that they usually drink once per week or more often, compared to 61% of those in the highest income category. However, on the occasions when people in the lower income categories do drink, they tend to consume more than other income groups (Figure 23). Those with household incomes below \$10,000 per year report consuming 3.2 drinks per occasion, compared to 2.7 drinks for those with household incomes over \$60,000 (Table 12). Men with household incomes of

Figure 19:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

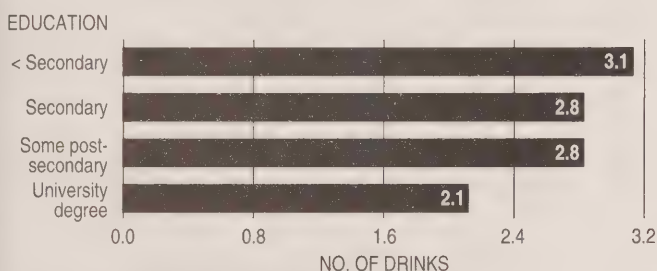
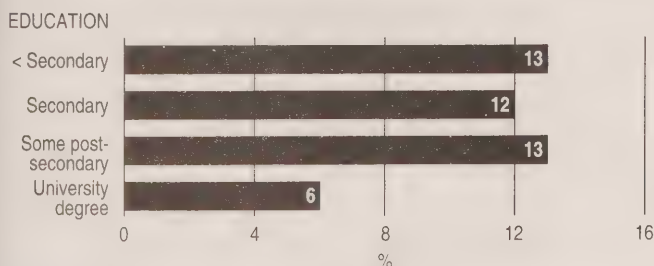


Figure 20:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



less than \$10,000 consume the highest number of drinks per occasion (4.2 drinks), followed by men with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 (3.5 drinks).

Largely because they consume alcohol on a frequent basis, Canadians with high household incomes consume a higher number of drinks per week than those in lower income categories (Figure 24). For

Figure 21:
Percentage of current drinkers, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

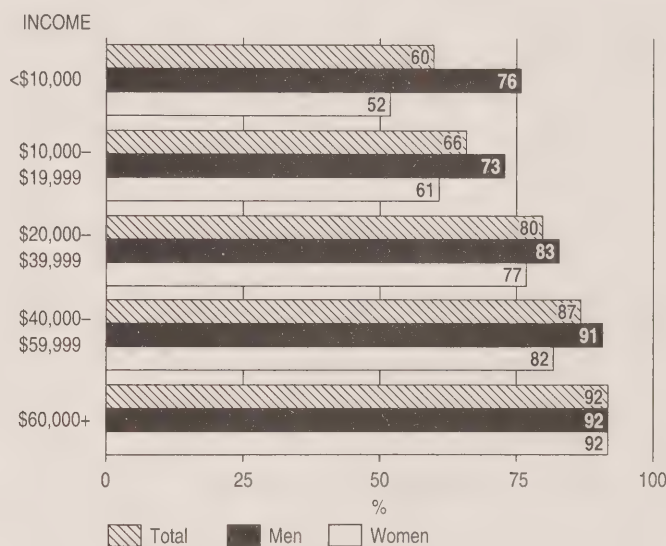
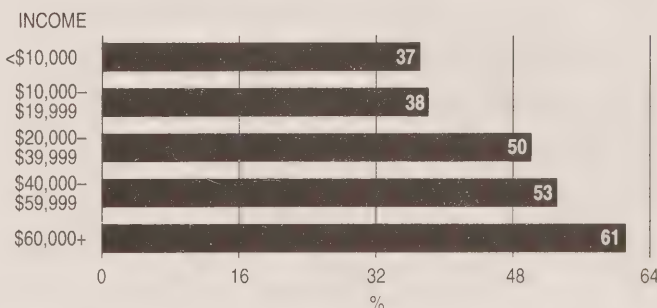


Figure 22:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol once per week or more often in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



example, those in households earning \$60,000 or more consume, on average, 4.6 drinks per week, compared to 2.6 drinks for those with household incomes below \$10,000.

Male drinkers in the lowest household income categories are slightly more likely to engage in heavy drinking activity (Table 13). One out of every four men (25%) in households earning \$10,000 or less reported consuming five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to 18% of those with household incomes of \$60,000 or more.

Figure 23:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

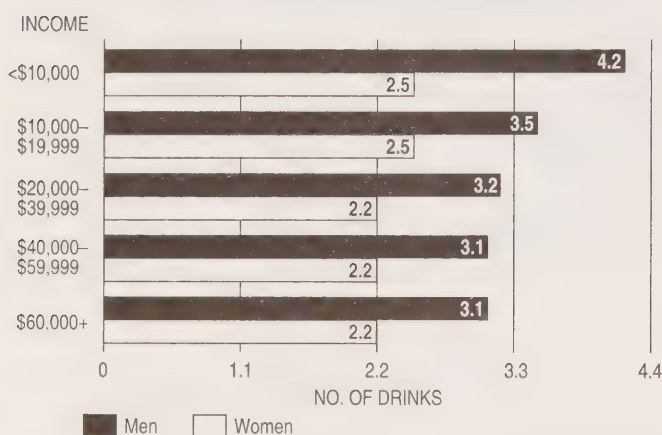
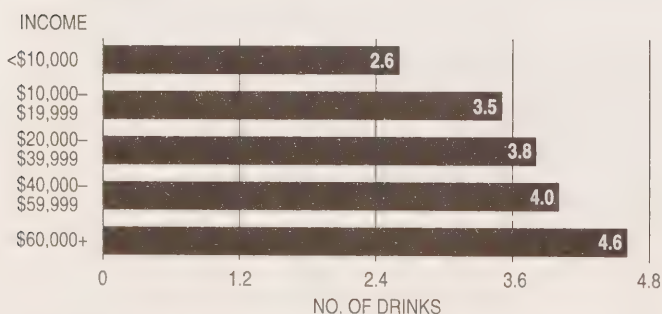


Figure 24:
Average number of drinks consumed per week, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



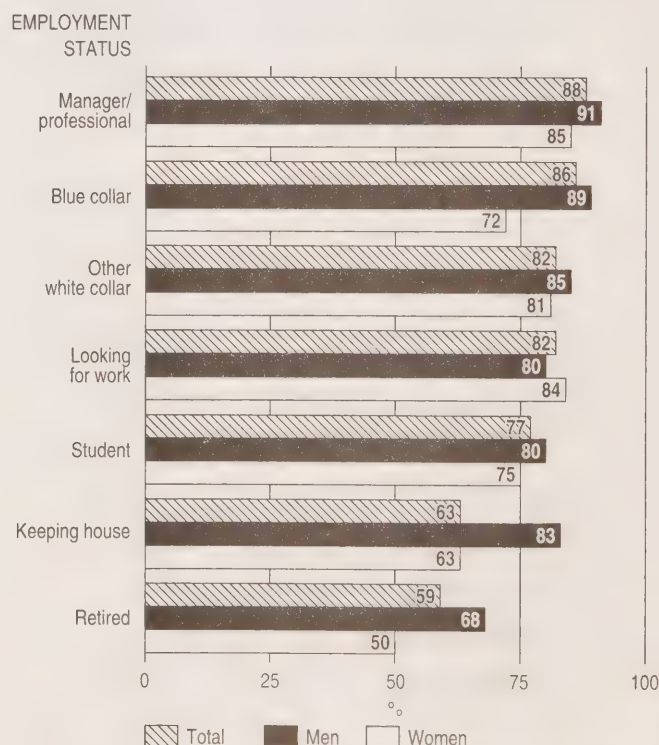
Employment Status

Alcohol consumption is more prevalent among Canadians who are actively involved in the work force (Figure 25 and Table 14). Approximately 86% of those who are employed reported that they used alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 82% of those who are looking for work, 77% of students, 63% of those keeping house and 59% of those who are retired.

The rate of alcohol use is much higher among employed women (81%) than among those who are keeping house (63%). Women in managerial/professional (85%) or other white-collar (81%) positions are also noticeably more likely to be current drinkers than those holding blue-collar jobs (72%). Differences between men from these employment categories are not as pronounced (Figure 25).

Differences in the prevalence rates of male and female current drinkers are relatively small (four to

Figure 25:
Percentage of current drinkers, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

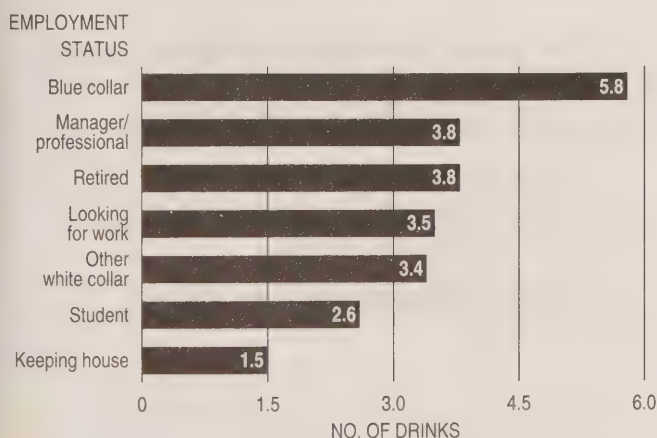


six percentage points) among managers/professionals, those holding other white-collar jobs, those looking for work and students. On the other hand, gender differences are quite large among the retired population (18 percentage points) and blue-collar workers (17 percentage points). Interestingly, among those who are looking for work, a higher percentage of women (84%) than men (80%) are current drinkers (Table 14).

The findings indicate that, among current drinkers, alcohol consumption is most frequent among those who are retired (Table 15). This finding is consistent with the earlier observation of a positive relationship between frequency of consumption and age (see Figure 9). Approximately two out of every ten retirees (22%) who are current drinkers report consuming alcohol four or more times per week, followed by managers/professionals (14%), blue-collar workers (13%) and those looking for work (10%). However, a sizeable percentage of retired drinkers (51%) report drinking less than once per week. Clearly, the drinking behaviour of the retired population is far from homogeneous.

Current drinkers who are looking for work consume the highest average number of drinks per occasion (4.0), followed by blue-collar workers (3.5), students (3.3) and those holding white-collar positions other than managers/professionals (2.8). All other occupational categories, including managers/professionals, fall below the national average of 2.8 drinks per occasion (Table 15).

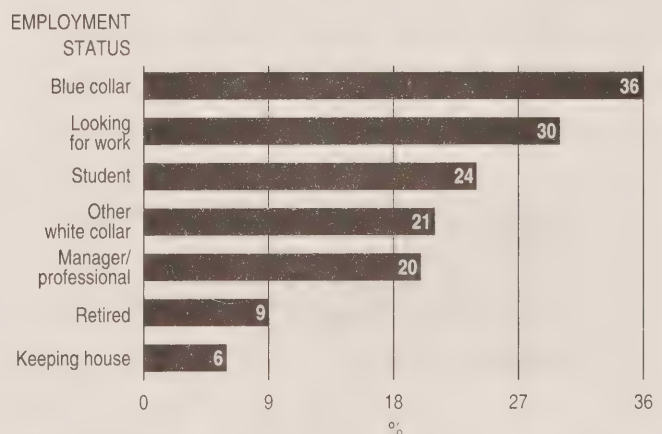
Figure 26:
Average number of drinks consumed per week, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



In general, current drinkers holding blue-collar jobs consume more alcoholic beverages per week than those in other occupational categories (Figure 26 and Table 14). Thirteen percent of blue-collar workers consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 10% of retired drinkers and 7% of those holding either managerial/professional or other white-collar jobs. Overall, blue-collar workers consume an average of 5.8 drinks per week, followed by managers/professionals (3.8 drinks) and those who are retired (3.8 drinks). Students and those keeping house have the lowest estimated consumption levels (2.6 and 1.5 drinks per week, respectively).

The data suggest that blue-collar workers are more likely than those in other occupational categories to engage in heavy drinking behaviour (Figure 27 and Table 16). Thirty-six percent of blue-collar workers reported consuming five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, followed by 30% of those looking for work and 24% of students. Those who are keeping house (6%) or have retired (9%) are least likely to report drinking at this level. The higher frequency and quantity of alcohol use among blue-collar workers are probably due to a high (85%) percentage of men in this occupational category.

Figure 27:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Marital Status

Single (never married) Canadians are only slightly more likely than others to have reported drinking in the 12 months preceding the survey (Figure 28 and Table 17). Eighty-two percent of this group are current drinkers, compared to 79% of married individuals, 78% of those who are divorced and 76% of those who are separated. Widowed Canadians are least likely to be current drinkers — only 49% of this group reported consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey. This finding is largely attributable to the high proportion of women and seniors among the widowed population.

Among current drinkers, those who are separated (17%) or widowed (14%) are most likely to report drinking, on average, four or more times per week (Table 18). Single individuals (7%) are least likely to

Figure 28:
Percentage of current drinkers, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

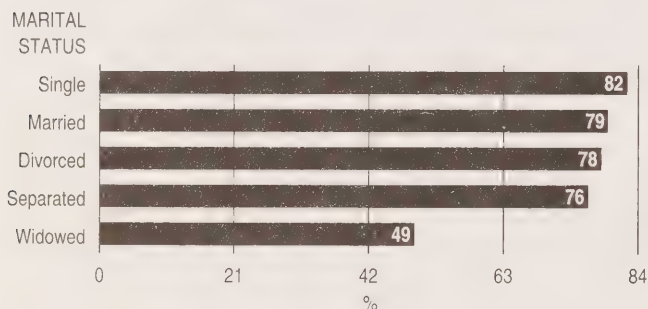
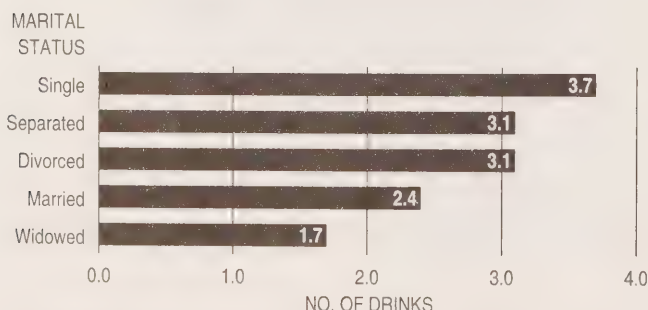


Figure 29:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



report drinking this frequently. However, half of the single and divorced persons are most likely to report drinking once per week or more often (Table 18). The findings indicate that single Canadians consume the largest quantity of alcohol per drinking occasion (Figure 29).

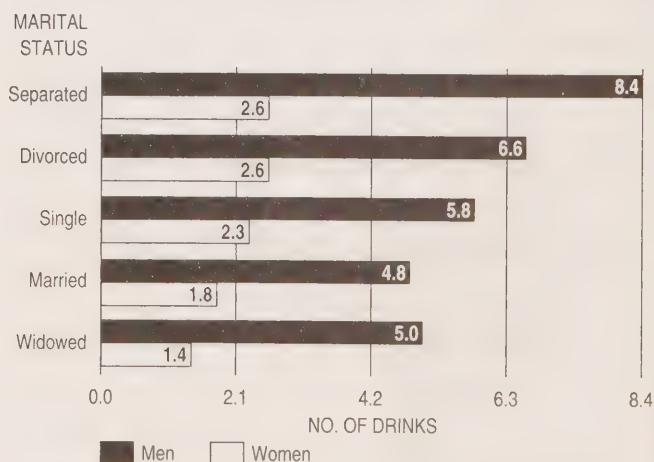
Separated, divorced and single drinkers report consuming more alcohol per week than those who are married or widowed (Figure 30). The differences between marital status categories are more pronounced for males than for females. Almost one out of every four separated men (22%) reported consuming 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 14% of divorced men and 13% of those who are single (Table 17).

Single persons are also most likely to engage in heavy drinking activity (Figure 31 and Table 19). Thirty-three percent of single drinkers consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to 25% of separated or divorced persons, 16% of married persons and only 7% of those who are widowed.

Language

The use of alcohol is slightly more prevalent among Anglophones than Francophones (Table 20). Seventy-nine percent of English-speaking Canadians are

Figure 30:
Average number of drinks consumed per week, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



current drinkers, compared to 77% of those who speak French. Alcohol use is less prevalent (66%) among Canadians who report that their primary language is neither French nor English.

Approximately the same percentage of men from each of the three language groups are current drinkers. Thus, overall differences between language groups stem largely from female drinking behaviour (Figure 32). English-speaking women are slightly more likely to report current alcohol consumption (75%) than French-speaking women (69%). Women who speak some other language are much less likely (45%) to be current drinkers than those who speak

either French or English. These findings suggest the possibility of cultural differences in the acceptance of female drinking activity.

Among current drinkers, those whose main language is neither English nor French tend to drink more frequently (Table 21). For example, 16% of this language group report that they drink four or more times per week, compared to 11% of Anglophones and 9% of Francophones. However, on the occasions when they do drink, drinkers whose language is neither French nor English tend to consume less alcohol. Anglophones consume an average of 2.9 drinks per occasion, followed by Francophones (2.7 drinks) and those who speak another language (2.1 drinks). These differences exist for both men and women (Figure 33).

There is no appreciable difference between Anglophones and Francophones in terms of weekly consumption estimates (Table 20). Both English and French drinkers consume, on average, 3.8 drinks per week. Those drinkers who speak another language at home report consuming 3.2 drinks per week.

The findings indicate that Anglophones and Francophones are equally likely to engage in heavy drinking behaviour (Table 22). For example, 23% of English-speaking drinkers and 21% of French-speaking drinkers consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey. By contrast, only 10% of those who speak another language report drinking at this level.

Figure 31:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

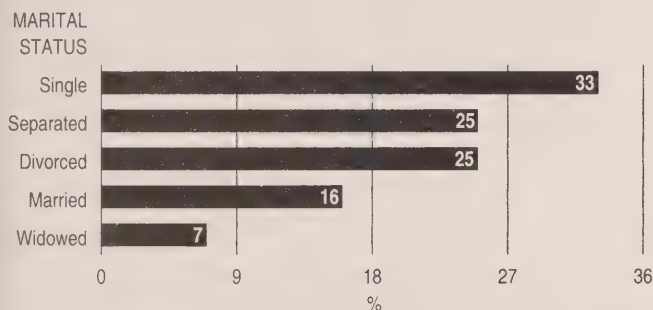


Figure 32:
Percentage of current drinkers, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

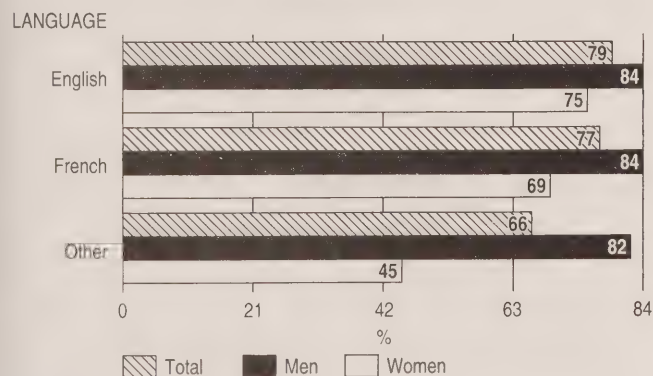
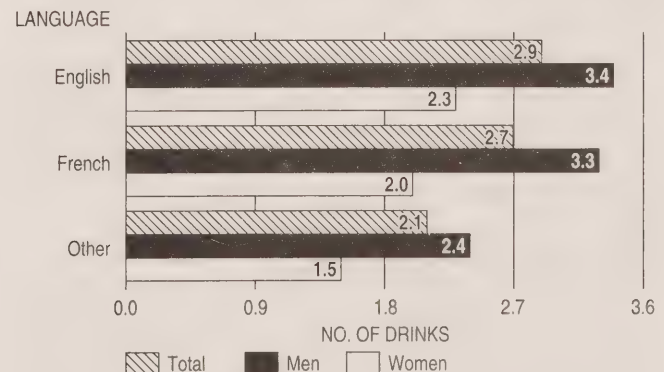


Figure 33:
Average number of drinks consumed per occasion in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Discussion



The findings discussed above suggest that alcohol consumption in Canada is related to a variety of socio-economic indicators, including region, age, sex, income, education and marital status. The purpose of this section is to briefly review these findings, place them in the context of other Canadian and international research and provide possible explanations for the observed relationships.

Region

Several other general population surveys conducted in Canada have found that both the prevalence and level of alcohol consumption increase from east to west (Eliany 1989a; Health and Welfare Canada 1988; Andrews and Layne 1985; Health and Welfare Canada 1981). This basic pattern has also been observed among student populations (Adlaf and Smart 1991).

Analyses based upon sales data yield results that are strikingly similar to survey findings (Mann et al. 1988; Statistics Canada 1987a). For example, based on 1986 sales figures, the four jurisdictions with the lowest per capita consumption of alcohol are Nova Scotia (9.1 litres/person), Newfoundland (8.9 litres/person), Prince Edward Island (8.7 litres/person) and New Brunswick (7.8 litres/person). Consistent with survey results, levels of per capita consumption are highest in British Columbia (11.67 litres/person) and Alberta (11.69 litres/person). The corresponding figures for Ontario and Quebec are 10.57 and 9.45 litres/person, respectively. However, it should be noted that Ontario stands above the national average (10.27 litres/person) and has a higher level of per capita consumption than both Saskatchewan and Manitoba (Adrian et al. 1988a).

Although regional and provincial differences in alcohol use are well documented, it is uncertain whether or not these differences are the result of physical residence itself or can be attributed to underlying demographic or socio-structural factors. In Canada, distinct migration and settlement patterns have led to a number of lasting regional differences with respect to religion, ethnicity, social class and economic development (Porter 1965; Gidengil 1990). Given that many of these factors are also related to alcohol use, it is not surprising to find regional varia-

tions in consumption patterns. Future research must establish whether or not region is a significant predictor of alcohol consumption in Canada or if the observed relationship can be explained by other factors.

Sex

Consistent with the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, the vast majority of Canadian (Eliany 1989a; Health and Welfare Canada 1988; Andrews and Layne 1985; Health and Welfare Canada 1981) and international (Bucholz and Robins 1989; Mooney et al. 1987; Fillmore 1987; Hilton 1988; Hilton 1986; Hilton and Clarke 1986; Fillmore 1984a; Stacey and Elvy 1982; Trotter 1982; Kaprio et al. 1982; Bachman et al. 1981; Wilson 1980) research indicates that men are more likely to drink, drink more frequently and consume more alcohol per drinking occasion than women. A review of the literature by Bowker (1977) noted that over 90% of the studies conducted in the United States report significantly higher rates of alcohol use among men than women. Boscarino (1981) maintains that, according to general population surveys, sex is the strongest predictor of drinking level. Cahalan (1988) also reports that sex is one of the most important determinants of both heavy drinking behaviour and alcohol-related problems.

Sociological explanations of reported gender differences in alcohol consumption centre around differential sex roles and expectations (Parker et al. 1980). In other words, society dictates that it is not appropriate for women to drink, although it is acceptable for men. Indeed, Pool (1978) found evidence that women have different norms concerning heavy drinking and that these norms conform to society's expectations that women drink less. Research also indicates that the general public views females who drink heavily in a much more negative light than they do heavy-drinking men (Kagle 1987).

This situation prompted Homiller (1978) and others to suggest that women may underreport their alcohol use because of the greater stigma attached to female drinking. A few studies have addressed the possibility of differential reporting of alcohol use among men and women. Cahalan and Treiman (1976) asked heavy drinkers about how likely they were to conceal their drinking and found no differences

between men and women. Garrett and Bahr (1974) compared self-rating and quantity–frequency measures of drinking status for several populations of drinkers and found that men consistently underrated their drinking. On the other hand, women were more likely to exaggerate their level of drinking or rate it accurately. Finally, Barr et al. (1977) asked high-school students to indicate the accuracy of their responses to questions concerning their own use of drugs and alcohol. The scale ranged from “fairly accurate” to “should be disregarded.” The answer “should be disregarded” was given about twice as frequently by males than by females for all grades surveyed. Thus, the evidence suggests that women are at least as likely as men to report their consumption accurately, and therefore gender differences that show up in survey data should be taken seriously.

It has also been suggested that lower alcohol consumption levels among women are associated with sex differences in body weight. Women do not have to drink as much as men in order to feel the intoxicating effects of alcohol and experience various alcohol-related problems (Johnson et al. 1977). Whitehead and Layne (1987) examined this proposition using data from the Canada Fitness Survey, which involved a sample of over 22,000 Canadians in 1981. The authors compared patterns of heavy drinking among young men and women, aged 15 to 29 years, using definitions of heavy drinking that controlled for differences in average body weight. With such controls in place, marked similarities were found between the usual consumption patterns of young men and women for a variety of status configurations.

Recent research has indicated that other physiological differences, besides body weight, may also help explain why women become intoxicated after drinking smaller quantities of alcohol than are needed to produce intoxication in men (Jones and Jones 1976). First, women have lower total body water content than men of comparable size. After alcohol is consumed, it diffuses uniformly into all body water, both inside and outside cells. Because of their smaller quantity of body water, women achieve higher concentrations of alcohol in their blood than men after drinking equivalent amounts of alcohol. More simply, “blood alcohol consumption in women may be likened to the result of dropping the same quantity of alcohol into a smaller pail of water” (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 1990).

Diminished activity of alcohol dehydrogenase (the primary enzyme involved in the metabolism of alcohol) in the stomach may also contribute to gender-related differences in blood alcohol concentrations and women’s heightened vulnerability to the physiological consequences of drinking. Julkunen et al. (1985) found that a substantial amount of alcohol is metabolized by gastric alcohol dehydrogenase in the stomach before it enters the circulatory system. Frezza et al. (1990) report that, because of diminished activity of dehydrogenase, first pass metabolism was decreased in women compared to men and was virtually nonexistent in heavy-drinking women. Finally, fluctuations in gonadal hormone levels during the menstrual cycle may affect the rate of metabolism, making women more susceptible to elevated blood alcohol concentrations at different points in their cycle (Sutker et al. 1987).

These findings indicate that biological differences between men and women may play an important role in explaining gender differences in patterns of alcohol consumption. The implication is that comparisons between men and women that do not control for body weight and composition may exaggerate differences in male and female drinking behaviour. However, as Ferrence (1980) notes, most past research indicates that levels of alcohol consumption are consistently greater among men, even when differences in body weight and composition are controlled. Thus, sociological explanations of gender differences in alcohol consumption remain important and obviously deserve further consideration.

Some scholars have suggested that the magnitude of sex differences in alcohol consumption might be diminishing. For example, a survey of Scottish teenagers found that whereas levels of alcohol consumption remained relatively stable in men, women had a mean consumption level 65% higher than that obtained 10 years earlier (Dight 1976). Results that indicate a disproportionate increase in alcohol consumption among women have also been reported in Britain (Shaw 1980) and the United States (Leland 1982).

The reported increase in drinking by women has been attributed to the removal of constraints upon female drinking, including greater freedom of access to alcohol, higher discretionary spending power and less social stigma than has hitherto pertained to

women who drink regularly (Camberwell Council on Alcoholism 1980). Increased alcohol consumption among women has also been attributed to the stress caused by role conflicts between domestic and occupational commitments that modern women experience (Johnson et al. 1977). It is often assumed that the demands of multiple roles (e.g., wife, mother, worker) also increase the risk of developing alcohol-related problems. Research, however, does not support this contention. Several studies indicate that women who are married, have full-time jobs and have children at home are the least likely to become heavy drinkers (Wilsnack et al. 1986). On the other hand, role deprivation (e.g., loss of role as wife, mother or worker) may increase a woman's risk of developing alcohol-related problems (Wilsnack and Cheloha 1987).

In Canada, there is little or no evidence that women's drinking behaviour is becoming more similar to men's. In 1985, 86% of men and 77% of women identified themselves as current drinkers — a difference of nine percentage points. In the 1989 survey, 84% of men and 72% of women are current drinkers — a difference of 12 percentage points. Although the proportion of drinkers has dropped for both sexes, the decrease is greater for women.

Nevertheless, survey findings do reveal a converging trend in the average number of drinks consumed per week by men and women. In 1985, men consumed 7.3 drinks and women consumed 2.8 drinks per week — a difference of 4.5 drinks per week. In 1989, the figures were 5.3 and 2.0, respectively — a difference of only 3.3 drinks per week. However, it must be stressed that this convergence is not due to a disproportionate increase in female drinking but to a large decrease in the number of drinks consumed by men and a correspondingly smaller decrease for women.

Age

The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that there is a negative relationship between age and alcohol consumption. This finding is consistent with previous cross-sectional and longitudinal research, which has also shown a distinct decline in mean consumption and drinking problems with age (Eliany 1989a; Fillmore et al. 1989; Bucholz and Robins 1989; Fillmore et al. 1988; Health and Welfare Canada 1988; Glynn et al. 1985).

Warheit and Auth (1984) categorized only 2% of those over 50 years of age as being at high risk of alcohol-related problems, compared to 6% of those aged 30 to 49 and 10% of those aged 18 to 24. Holzer et al. (1984) found similarly low rates of six-month prevalence of alcohol abuse or dependence among older compared to younger groups. Barnes (1982) reviewed a number of studies (including her own household survey of New York State) and found the prevalence of heavy drinking among older people to be approximately 6% to 8%, compared to 20% of heavy drinkers in the total sample. Furthermore, only 9% of those over 60 reported at least one alcohol-related problem, compared to 54% of those aged 18 to 49 and 30% of those aged 50 to 59.

Mishara and Kastenbaum (1980) reviewed a number of studies from various countries and identified this same pattern of decreased alcohol use with increasing age. Although other reviewers cite slightly higher prevalence rates among the elderly (e.g., Blazer and Pennybacker 1984; Williams 1984), it is commonly accepted that rates for older people are lower than those estimated for younger populations (see also Cooke and Allan 1983; Hingson et al. 1981; Cahalan and Room 1972).

The relatively low rate of alcohol use among older people may be attributable to a number of factors. It has been suggested that age-related declines in alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems are the result of excess mortality among heavy drinkers. Past research has demonstrated that the mortality rate of heavy drinkers is much higher than that of either abstainers or moderate drinkers (Poikolainen 1980). Thus, it may be possible that only those people with moderate patterns of drinking will survive into old age. In other words, a "survival effect" lowers the overall level of alcohol consumption among the aged (Stall 1987:207; Room and Day 1974).

An alternative explanation attributes the differences in the drinking practices of age cohorts to a variety of developmental factors associated with the aging process. These include such biological and health factors as lower body mass, decline in body water content, slower metabolic function and higher probability of drug-alcohol consumption. All of these factors would increase the physical effects of alcohol, thus reducing overall consumption (Hartford and Samorajski 1982). Others point to the sociological and

economic influences common to the aging experience. For many older people, the loss of social roles, the loss of responsibility and the loss of economic and physical independence could be important determining factors in decreased alcohol consumption (Douglass et al. 1988).

Some scholars suggest that the low rates of alcohol consumption currently observed among the elderly reflect the drinking norms of a generation that has now reached old age (i.e., a cohort effect). Higher rates of alcohol consumption among the elderly can therefore be expected with the aging of generations that are currently young and hold liberal views about alcohol consumption (Meyers et al. 1981).

Support for this explanation is provided by Glynn et al. (1983), who explored changes in alcohol consumption over a nine-year period among men initially aged 21 to 81. As with other studies, they found that the oldest age cohort reported a lower mean number of drinks than the younger cohorts. However, although more subjects decreased consumption than increased it, the mean consumption levels within the different age cohorts remained statistically stable over time.

Temple and Leino (1988), using a sample of San Francisco residents, also report relative consistency in the drinking practices of different age cohorts over a 20-year period. These findings do not support the idea that drinking always decreases with age. Glynn et al. (1985) found that differences in patterns of drinking across the life course are attributable to cohort and time period rather than maturation. These findings serve to highlight the importance of monitoring trends in the prevalence of drinking among older populations.

Finally, it should be noted that some researchers (e.g., Graham 1986) have advised that particular caution be taken when considering survey data relating to the alcohol consumption of older people. First of all, self-reports of drinking behaviour require accurate recent memory of past consumption and mental averaging ability. Some elderly persons may have problems remembering recent drinking patterns, especially without jobs or regular events to help structure memory. In addition, the elderly take more prescription drugs than other age groups, and some of these drugs may impair memory. Similarly, if their

mental abilities have diminished or they are unaccustomed to the task, older people may be less able to accurately answer questions that require mental averaging (e.g., How much do you usually drink in a week?). Finally, some authors suggest that the denial of alcohol abuse is much greater among the elderly than among other groups. Many of the elderly grew up during a time when drinking was frowned upon and may be reluctant to admit even limited consumption (see review in Graham 1986).

Socio-Economic Status

Education, income and occupational prestige are highly related concepts that are generally used to denote an individual's socio-economic status. Research findings concerning the relationship between alcohol use and socio-economic status are inconsistent and often contradictory (see Dobson et al. 1985; Moser 1980; Wechsler and McFadden 1979). For example, results from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that Canadians who are employed, are well-educated and have a good income are more likely to drink and drink more frequently than other Canadians. However, the data also suggest that persons with low incomes and low levels of educational attainment consume more drinks per drinking occasion and are more likely to engage in heavy drinking activity (i.e., consume five drinks or more on a single occasion). In general, these findings are consistent with the results of other Canadian surveys (Eliany 1989a; Health and Welfare Canada 1988; Statistics Canada 1987b; Andrews and Layne 1985; Health and Welfare Canada 1981).

Logic dictates that because of higher disposable incomes, affluent individuals can afford to maintain a regular pattern of alcohol use. It has also been assumed that those in high status positions are often involved in "drinking cultures" — that is, they are more likely to be exposed to alcohol because they are expected to drink regularly with customers, clients and co-workers (Johnson 1982; Kleeman and Googins 1983).

There is evidence to suggest that this pattern of increasing alcohol consumption with increasing socio-economic status may be particularly true of women. Indeed, results from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey reveal that there are larger differences between income groups among women than men. Similar results have also been reported in Great

Britain (Dight 1976; Wilson 1980), the United States (Celento and McQueen 1984; Ferrence 1984; Wilsnack et al. 1985) and New Zealand (Casswell 1980).

Generally, women who are employed are less likely to abstain and more likely to report higher levels of drinking. Consumption tends to be greatest among unmarried women who are employed full-time and have no dependent children. However, a few studies have reported that consumption is heaviest among married, employed women (Johnson et al. 1977).

There is very little evidence to suggest that drinking is associated with specific jobs or occupations. Mensch and Kandel (1988), using U.S. data from the 1984 National Longitudinal Survey of Labour Market Experience (N=10,209), found no clear epidemiological patterns regarding the distribution of alcohol use across occupations and industries. Likewise, specific job dimensions, whether assessed from job titles or the respondents themselves, showed very low correlations with quantity–frequency measures of alcohol use. The authors concluded that alcohol use by workers is not due as much to the conditions of the workplace as to the attributes of the work force.

Concerning the relationship between occupational status and alcohol use, Giesbrecht et al. (1982) tested two competing hypotheses: (1) an “availability” perspective, which argues that a decrease in alcohol consumption might be expected during unemployment as a result of lower disposable incomes and consequently lower accessibility to alcohol; and (2) an “integrationist” perspective, which holds that an increase in consumption might be expected because of increased tension and more leisure time to drink. Their study examined the effects of a 1978–1979 miners’ strike in Ontario on alcohol consumption patterns before, during and after the strike. They found that the overall level of alcohol consumption declined during the strike, lending support to the hypothesis that lower incomes deflate overall alcohol consumption.

It is clear that the relationship between alcohol consumption and socio-economic status must be clarified by future research. Is alcohol more accessible to those with higher incomes? Is drinking an important part of a middle- or upper-class lifestyle? Does financial distress lead to problem drinking, or does drinking cause financial distress? Answers to these and other pressing questions have yet to be found and

thus deserve further attention from alcohol researchers.

Marital Status

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that alcohol consumption is more prevalent among unmarried Canadians (i.e., those who are single, separated or divorced) than among those who are either married or widowed. The relationship between alcohol consumption and marital status reported here is generally consistent with the findings of other Canadian surveys (Eliany 1989a; Adrian et al. 1988a; Health and Welfare Canada 1988).

Whitehead and Layne (1987) and Layne and Whitehead (1985) analysed patterns of drinking among men and women aged 15 to 29 years (N=7,000) using data from the Canada Fitness Survey. Assessment of heavy drinking was based on a self-report of the number of drinks respondents usually have at one time. For men, six drinks and over is referred to as heavy drinking, for women, 4.5 drinks. This operational definition of heavy drinking was selected because of its clinical significance. It marks a level of consumption at which, if maintained over time, various health risks will likely increase. Married persons reported the lowest rates of heavy drinking (12% for men, 11% for women). About 16% of both single men and single women were classified as heavy drinkers. By far the highest rates of heavy drinking were reported among divorced or separated persons (27% for men, 28% for women).

Most international research concerning patterns of alcohol consumption has also found that heavy drinking behaviour seems to be more prevalent among unmarried than married people (Jenkins 1986; Shore 1985; Mensch and Kandel 1988; Cahalan et al. 1969; Wechsler 1978; Johnson 1982; Wallach 1978). Evidence also suggests that this pattern may be particularly true of women. Differences in alcohol consumption among women according to marital status have been commonly found and reported from surveys in Great Britain (Dight 1976; Wilson 1980), the United States (Celento and McQueen 1984; Ferrence 1984; Wilsnack et al. 1985) and New Zealand (Casswell 1980). Generally, women who are single, divorced or separated are less likely to abstain and more likely to report higher levels of drinking.

Consumption tends to be greatest among unmarried women who are employed full-time and have no dependent children. Furthermore, among married women, alcohol consumption has been found to be negatively associated with the number of children at home (Volicer et al. 1981).

Despite relatively consistent results, it should be noted that a number of studies have not found a significant relationship between alcohol consumption and marital status (see, for example, Adlaf and Smart 1991). Furthermore, we must caution that the relationship between marital status and drinking behaviour described in this report does not control for potentially confounding factors — including age. For example, widowed persons are more likely to be older, whereas single (never married) individuals are more likely to be young. As reported earlier, older persons drink considerably less than younger individuals. Thus, the negative relationship between heavy drinking behaviour and being widowed can probably be explained as the result of age differences between marital status categories. However, it is more difficult to explain away the positive relationship between alcohol consumption and being divorced or separated. Nevertheless, it is clear that marital status measures need to be placed within the context of a multivariate analysis in order to determine the amount of variation in alcohol consumption contributed by marital status.

Part Two: Tobacco Use

Definitions

The 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also asked Canadians about their use of tobacco. In this report, the term *current smokers* refers to respondents who answered "yes" to the question (Q9 in Appendix B) "At the present time do you smoke cigarettes?" The term *former smokers* is used to identify those individuals who have smoked cigarettes at some time in their lives (Q7 in Appendix B) but were not using tobacco at the time of the survey. *Level of smoking* refers to the usual number of cigarettes smoked per day (Q11 in Appendix B).

Prevalence of Smoking

Approximately one out of every three Canadians (32%) — or about 6.5 million individuals — are current smokers. An additional 26% of the population are former smokers, having used tobacco at some time in the past but not at the time of the survey. Thus, almost 60% of adult Canadians have had at least some experience with tobacco. Nevertheless, almost half of the people (45%) who had ever smoked had quit by 1989. Over two-fifths of the population (42%) report that they have never smoked cigarettes (Figure 34).

Almost all current smokers (99%) are regular (daily) smokers. Over 70% of all current smokers usually consume 11 or more cigarettes per day (Figure 35). Approximately 9% can be classified

as *heavy smokers* — consuming 26 cigarettes per day or more. One out of every four (25%) is a *light smoker* — consuming ten cigarettes a day or less.

General Trends

A comparison of results from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey with data from other Canadian surveys leads to the conclusion that the prevalence of smoking in Canada has stabilized over the last several years (Figure 36). After a steady and impressive decline from 50% of the adult population

Figure 35:
Number of cigarettes consumed per day by current smokers, age 15+, Canada, 1989

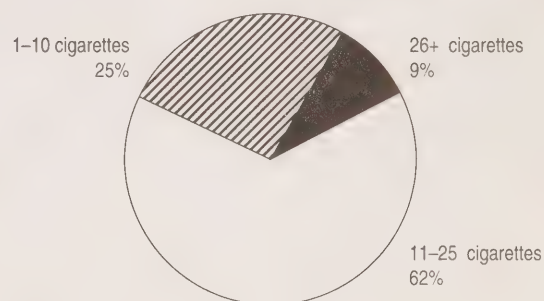


Figure 36:
Prevalence of current smokers, age 15+, Canada, 1965-1990

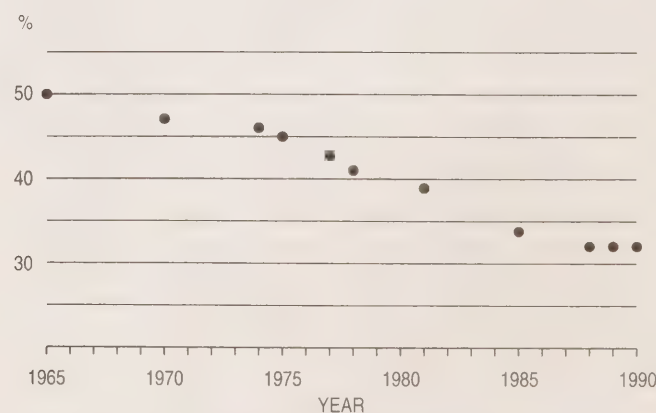
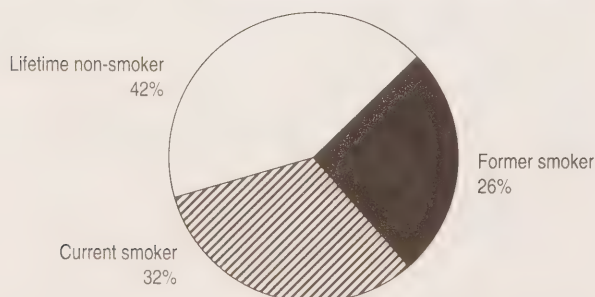


Figure 34:
The smoking status of Canadians, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Source: Eliany and Courtemanche 1992

in 1965 to 34% in 1984, the decline appears to have slowed or stalled in recent years.

Among youth, there has also been a slowing of the decline in smoking rates witnessed earlier in the decade. For both men and women age 15 to 19 and 20 to 24, there has been no significant change in the proportion of smokers since 1986 (Stephens 1991).

The unchanging proportion of Canadians who smoke seems to contradict the fact that tobacco sales continue to decrease (Stephens 1991). The explanation may be that those who are smoking are smoking less. For example, the 1985 General Social Survey (Statistics Canada 1987b) found that 81% of smokers consumed 11 or more cigarettes daily. This figure dropped to 72% in 1989 — a decrease of almost ten percentage points in the past four years.

Patterns of Smoking



The rate of current smoking is relatively consistent across the provinces. The highest rates are found in Newfoundland (36%), Prince Edward Island (35%) and Quebec (35%). The proportion of current smokers is 30% in Saskatchewan, 29% in Manitoba and 28% in British Columbia (Table 23).

Among current smokers, heavy smoking appears to be most common in Quebec, Newfoundland and British Columbia (Table 24). Thirteen percent of the current smokers in Quebec and Newfoundland report the consumption of 26 or more cigarettes per day. By

contrast, only 3% of the smokers in Saskatchewan and 5% of the smokers in Alberta report this level of tobacco consumption.

The data suggest that men (33%) are only slightly more likely than women (31%) to be current smokers (Table 23). However, a higher percentage of men (30%) than women (22%) are former smokers. Women (48%) are more likely than men (37%) to report never having smoked a cigarette. Among current smokers, men are more likely than women to smoke heavily. Thirteen percent of male smokers consume 26 or more cigarettes per day, compared to only 6% of female smokers (Table 24).

Current smokers are most likely to be found among young and middle-aged adults (Figure 37). Only teens (23%) and seniors (19%) have a smoking prevalence rate that is below the national rate (Table 25). The prevalence of former smokers increases steadily with age — from 12% in the youngest age group to 35% in the oldest age group.

Heavy smoking is most prevalent among Canadians between 35 and 54 years of age. Seventeen percent of current smokers 45 to 54 years of age and 13% between 35 and 44 report consuming 26 or more cigarettes per day. All other groups fall below the national rate (Table 26).

The data suggest that there is a negative relationship between smoking and education (Figure 38 and Table 27). Approximately 36% of Canadians with less than a high-school education and 36% of those who have completed high school are current smokers, compared to 30% of those with some post-secondary

Figure 37:
Current smokers, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

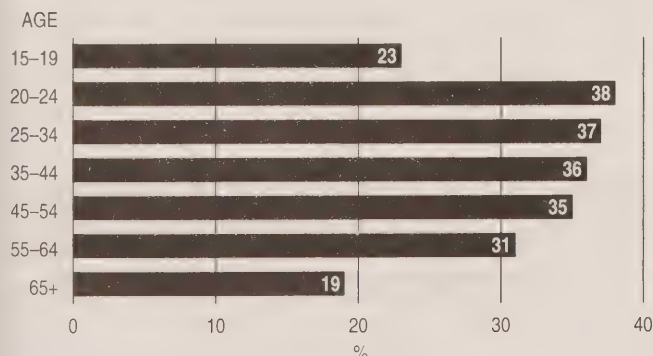
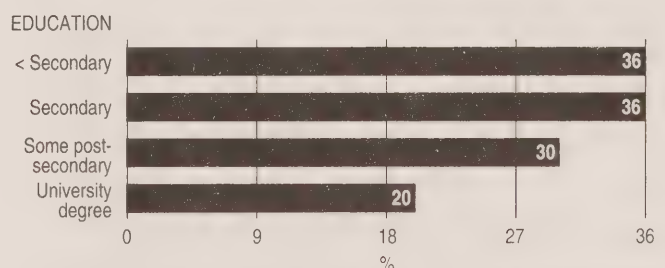


Figure 38:
Current smokers, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



school education and non-university degree and 20% of those with a university degree. Among current smokers, the relationship between education and level of tobacco use is less clear (Table 28). Seventy-seven percent of those who have completed high school consume 11 or more cigarettes per day, compared to 74% with less than high school, 66% with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree and 59% with a university degree. This suggests that highly educated smokers smoke less than those with lower levels of educational attainment. However, the data also reveal that heavy smoking — i.e., the consumption of 26 or more cigarettes per day — is most likely to occur among those with a university degree (Table 28).

As with education, there appears to be a negative relationship between income and smoking. The data suggest that people with low household incomes are more likely to smoke than those with high household incomes (Table 29). For example, 38% of those in households making between \$10,000 and \$29,999 per year are current smokers, compared to 25% of those in households earning \$60,000 a year or more. Among current smokers, there appears to be little relationship between income and level of tobacco consumption (Table 30).

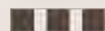
The prevalence of tobacco use also varies by occupation (Table 31). Smoking is most prevalent among Canadians who are looking for work (42%), followed by blue-collar workers (41%), white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (37%), home-makers (30%), managers/professionals (29%), those who are retired (24%) and students (23%). It is interesting to note that female managers/professionals (31%) are more likely to smoke than male managers/professionals (27%).

Current smokers in blue-collar occupations have the highest level of tobacco use (Table 32). Eighty percent of this group consume 11 or more cigarettes per day, followed by 77% of white-collar workers other than managers/professionals and 74% of those who are looking for work. Student smokers have the lowest level of use — only 43% of this group consume 11 or more cigarettes per day.

Smoking status also varies by language group (Table 33). Francophones (35%) are slightly more likely to smoke than Anglophones (31%) and those who speak another language (27%). The data suggest

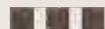
that heavy tobacco use is most common among current smokers whose main language is other than French or English (Table 34). Approximately 14% of this group smoke 26 or more cigarettes per day, compared to 13% of French-speaking and 8% of English-speaking smokers.

Quit Rate



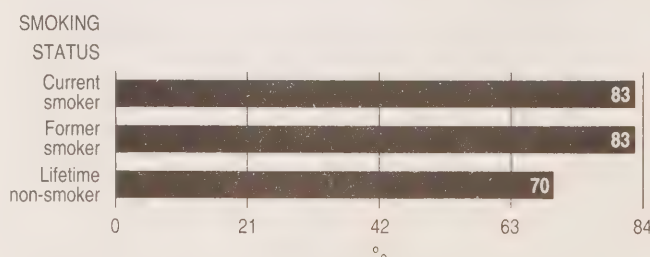
The quit rate for smoking refers to the percentage of former smokers among those who have ever used tobacco. The data indicate that almost half (45%) of Canadians who reported smoking at some time in their lives had quit by 1989 (Table 35). The prevalence of quitting tends to increase with age. The lowest quit rate (29%) is found among 20 to 24 year olds, the highest (65%) among those who are 65 years of age and older. In general, the quit rate is higher among men (48%) than women (42%). This is especially true in the older age categories. For example, there is a difference of only two percentage points in the quit rate for men and women between 15 and 19 years of age. However, this gap rises to 16 percentage points among those 65 years of age and older (Table 35). The fact that men have a higher quit rate than women is consistent with previous research that suggests that female smokers are often less successful than male smokers in giving up the habit (Tagliacozzo and Vaughn 1980).

Smoking and Drinking



Canadians who are or have been cigarette smokers are more likely to be current drinkers than those who have never smoked (Figure 39). Eighty-three percent

Figure 39:
Percentage of current drinkers,
by smoking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

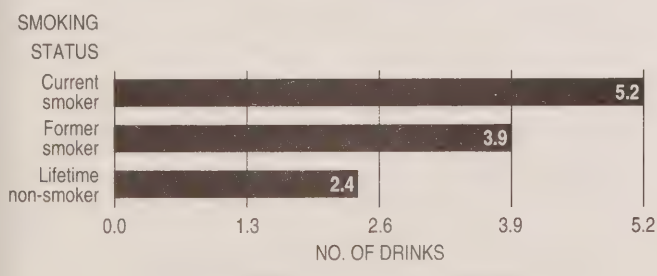


of both current and former smokers reported alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, compared to 70% of lifetime non-smokers. The differences between smoking groups are considerably larger among women than men (Table 36). For example, 79% of female current smokers reported drinking in the year preceding the survey, compared to 63% of female lifetime non-smokers — a difference of 16 percentage points. By contrast, 86% of male current smokers are current drinkers, compared to 80% of male lifetime non-smokers — a difference of only six percentage points.

The data also suggest that there is a positive relationship between level of alcohol consumption and smoking status (Figure 40). Current smokers have the highest level of weekly consumption (5.2 drinks per week), followed by former smokers (3.9 drinks) and lifetime non-smokers (2.4 drinks). Furthermore, 11% of current smokers reported consuming 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 8% of former smokers and 4% of lifetime non-smokers (Table 36).

Canadians who smoke are more likely to engage in heavy drinking activity than those who do not (Figure 41). Eighteen percent of current smokers reported consuming five or more drinks on at least 15 occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to 9% of former smokers and 7% of lifetime non-smokers. On the other hand, 59% of lifetime non-smokers reported that they had never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, compared to 51% of former smokers and 36% of current smokers (Table 37).

Figure 40:
Average number of drinks consumed per week, by smoking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



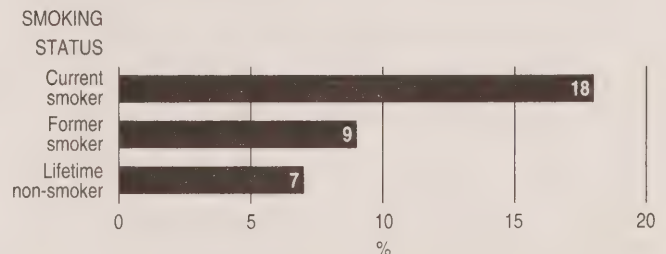
Consistent with the above findings, a good deal of previous research has also established that there is a positive relationship between drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes (see review in Mintz et al. 1985). Studies of both student and adult populations have consistently shown that people who drink alcohol are more likely to smoke than those who do not. Smoking rates are particularly high among problem drinkers, with rates among alcoholics ranging from 92% to 100% (Maletzky and Klotter 1974). A number of studies have also shown that when alcohol is present there is a significant increase in the number of cigarettes smoked (Mello et al. 1980). It is tempting to conclude a direct causal relationship — that alcohol consumption induces a physical or psychological state that increases an individual's desire to smoke. It is also possible that cigarette smoking is an integral part of a drinking culture and that people become socialized into using both substances at the same time. Unfortunately, there is little empirical evidence to help explain the relationship between smoking and drinking.

Discussion



Previous research indicates that Canadians have one of the highest tobacco consumption rates in the world (United States Department of Health and Human Services 1988). The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that approximately 6.5 million adult Canadians currently smoke cigarettes on a regular basis. With these figures in mind, it is not surprising that the Canadian tobacco industry has sales in excess of \$3 billion per year (Millar 1983).

Figure 41:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, by smoking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Consistent with previous Canadian research (Health and Welfare Canada 1981; Health and Welfare Canada 1988), the results presented above suggest that smoking is relatively uncommon among older people. One possible explanation for the age difference in smoking patterns is that many people quit smoking as they grow older because of concerns about their health (McKim and Mishara 1987). Indeed, results from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that older Canadians are much more likely than younger people to report being former smokers (Table 25).

A second explanation is that the negative effects of smoking on health are so strong that significant numbers of smokers die before they reach old age. Smokers are much more likely than non-smokers to suffer from lung cancer, heart disease, cancer of the mouth, bronchitis, emphysema, blockage of blood vessels and stomach ulcers. Pollin (1977) estimates that one out of every six Americans dies prematurely from tobacco use. He argues that the elimination of smoking would save approximately 300,000 lives in the United States per year, including a 33% reduction in the number of deaths by heart disease and a 90% reduction in deaths from lung cancer. Such a reduction would have its greatest impact on the elderly, as most deaths in later life are caused by heart disease and cancer.

It is frequently reported that women are less likely than men to smoke and that female smokers consume fewer cigarettes per day than their male counterparts (United States Department of Health and Human Services 1988; Blair et al. 1980; Pope 1982; Tamir et al. 1982). However, it is interesting to note that, over the past 25 years, the smoking rate has declined much more rapidly among men than women. For example, the male smoking rate dropped from 56% in 1965 to 33% in 1989 — a difference of 23 percentage points. By contrast, the female smoking rate fell from 33% to 31% — a difference of only two percentage points. The result of this differential trend is that the overall percentage of smokers among men and women is almost equal. Whereas the gender difference was 23 percentage points in 1965, it is only two percentage points in 1989.

Recent research indicates that, among young people, the rate of female smoking may actually be surpassing the rate of male smoking (Health and

Welfare Canada 1988; Health and Welfare Canada 1981; Choay and Morla 1981). Indeed, the present survey found that smoking is slightly more common among women than men in the two youngest age groups (Table 25). However, among current smokers, men still consume more cigarettes per day than their female counterparts (Table 26).

Consistent with the findings of the present survey, previous research has found that lower socio-economic status and/or downward social mobility is associated with a higher proportion of smokers (Health and Welfare Canada 1988; Health and Welfare Canada 1981; Dobson et al. 1985; Wynder et al. 1981; Green 1979; Borland and Rudolph 1975). However, there is evidence to suggest that the relationship between socio-economic status and smoking is less reliably found for women and may be frequently reversed (Gomberg 1986; Gottlieb and Green 1984). Furthermore, when extremely low socio-economic groups are included in the analysis, the relationship between socio-economic status and smoking can take the form of an inverted U (Syme and Berkman 1982). This latter finding may stem from the relative expense of smoking for individuals with extremely low incomes.

In conclusion, although the proportion of smokers changed little from 1985 to 1989, health promotion professionals should be encouraged by the evidence that suggests that the amount of tobacco consumed daily has declined during this period. Nevertheless, it is too soon to say whether new advertising restrictions and anti-smoking campaigns have had an impact on smoking patterns. The fact that one-third of Canadians still smoke is clear evidence that the struggle for a "Smoke-Free Generation" has not yet been won.

Part Three: Other Drugs

Definitions



The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey questioned Canadians about their use of various licit and illicit drugs. In this analysis, the licit drugs discussed include sleeping pills, tranquilizers, diet pills, anti-depressants and prescription opiates, such as codeine, demerol and morphine. The illicit drugs include marijuana, cocaine, LSD, speed and heroin. Although there are many other categories of drugs, those included were most likely to have been used by the survey's target population, people 15 years of age and older. Also, they are the drugs that have been looked at in other studies of Canadian adults, thus permitting some comparisons.

Because the use of these drugs is usually less common than the use of alcohol, percentages are always given to one decimal place. Typically, the percentage of Canadians using any drug is small: less than 10%. This implies that differences in percentages should be interpreted with care. Furthermore, low percentages caused the suppression of a great deal of the information dealing with both licit and illicit drugs. As a result, this report does not contain as detailed a description of patterns of drug use as was provided for alcohol and tobacco use.

Illicit Drug Use



Definitions and General Findings

Respondents to the survey were asked whether they had ever used marijuana or hashish, cocaine or crack, LSD, speed and heroin. Those admitting use were asked whether they had used the drug in the year preceding the survey (Q59 in Appendix B). Those admitting use in the year prior to the survey are considered *current users*.

On the basis of these responses, cannabis emerged as the most commonly used illicit substance in Canada (Figure 42). Over 4.5 million Canadians (approximately 23% of the total population) have used marijuana or hashish at some time in their lives. Over one million Canadians (6.5%) are current users.

The data indicate that cocaine or crack has been used by over 710,000 adult Canadians (3.5%). Approximately 280,000 Canadians (1.4%) reported using cocaine or crack in the year preceding the survey.

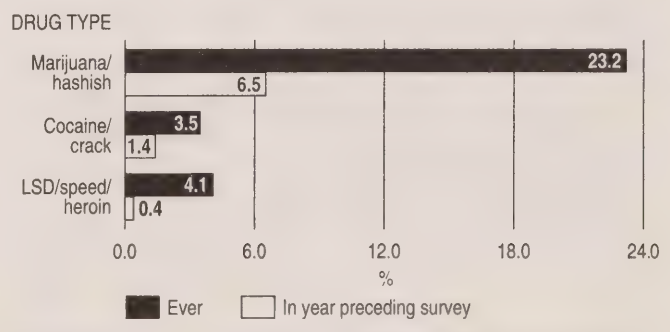
Although 4.1% of adult Canadians (or approximately 800,000 individuals) have used LSD, speed or heroin at some time in their lives, less than 1% (approximately 80,000 individuals) reported using it in the year preceding the survey (Figure 42 and Table 38). The low rates of current usage reported for LSD, speed and heroin preclude more detailed analysis of patterns of use.

In light of the small sample reporting illicit drug use, high sampling variability and the known limitations of this study — which excludes the homeless and institutionalized populations — all estimates provided in this section should be interpreted with caution. Furthermore, because of their illegality, underreporting of illicit drug use may be more of a problem than underreporting of either alcohol or licit drug use.

Cannabis

Twenty-three percent of adult Canadians report that they have used cannabis (marijuana or hashish) at some time in their lives. As with all illicit drugs, the rate of use of cannabis is higher among men than

Figure 42:
Percentage of population reporting use
of selected illicit drugs, age 15+, Canada, 1989



women (Figure 43). Approximately 29% of men report ever using marijuana or hashish, compared to 17.7% of women. Similarly, 8.9% of men reported using cannabis in the year preceding the survey, compared to 4.1% of women (Table 38).

The data also reveal that use of marijuana is more prevalent among younger than older Canadians (Figure 44 and Table 38). The highest rate of lifetime use was reported by Canadians age 20 to 24 (43.1%) and age 25 to 34 (43.0%), followed by people age 35 to 44 (25.8%) and 15 to 19 (23.2%). By contrast, only 2.4% of Canadians age 55 to 64 and 1.2% of Canadians 65 and over report ever using this substance. Among men, the highest rate of use (51.7%)

is found among those age 25 to 34, whereas the highest rate among women is reported by those age 20 to 24 (36.7%).

The highest rate of current cannabis usage is among Canadians age 20 to 24 (18.4%), followed by those age 15 to 19 (12.3%) and those age 25 to 34 (10.5%). The proportion of the population 45 and over reporting use during the year preceding the survey is negligible (Table 38).

In terms of region, marijuana use is most prevalent in British Columbia, where 9.6% of the population used the substance in the 12 months prior to the survey. The rate of marijuana use is also relatively high in Nova Scotia (7.4%). Quebec and Alberta have rates of use that correspond to the national rate (6.5%), whereas all other provinces fall below the national rate (Figure 45 and Table 39). The lowest rates of current use are found in Newfoundland (4.5%), Prince Edward Island (4.7%), Saskatchewan (4.7%) and Manitoba (4.8%).

Students (14.1%) and those looking for employment (12.4%) have higher rates of current cannabis use than those who are currently employed. Among those who are employed, blue-collar workers have a

Figure 43:
Percentage of population who have "ever" used selected illicit drugs, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

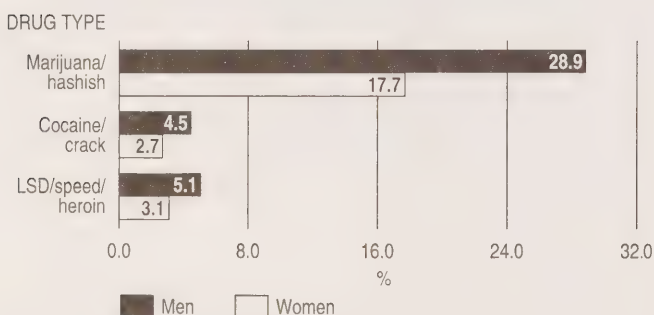


Figure 44:
Percentage of population who have "ever" used marijuana or hashish, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

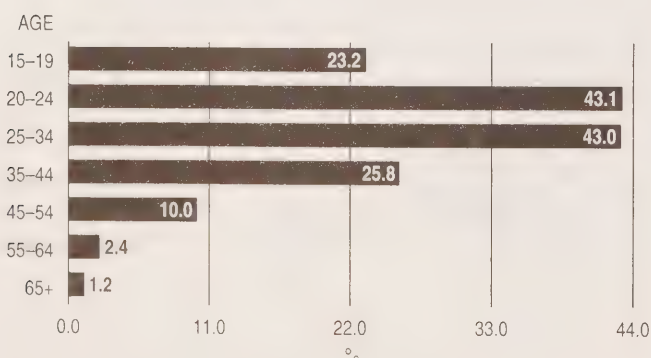
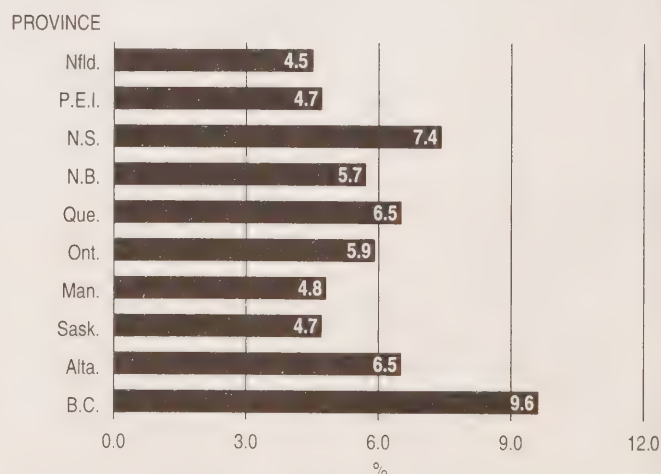


Figure 45:
Percentage of population who reported using marijuana or hashish in the year preceding the survey, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989



higher rate of use (8.7%) than those holding managerial/professional positions (5.7%) or other white-collar workers (7.7%) (Figure 46).

In terms of marital status, single (never married) people are the most likely to report current use of marijuana or hashish (15.4%). Marijuana use is also comparatively high among those who are separated

(9.1%) or divorced (7.6%). This pattern holds for both men and women (Table 40).

Almost one-half of all current users (48.6%) report that they use marijuana or hashish less than once per month. An additional 24.8% use marijuana between one and three times a month, and 22.4% consume the drug once a week or more often (Table 41).

Regardless of age, men are more frequent current users of marijuana than women (Figure 47 and Table 41). About one-quarter (25.6%) of male users report that they use marijuana one or more times per week, compared to 15.8% of female users. Sixty percent (60.0%) of female marijuana users report that they use it less than once per month, compared to 43.2% of male users.

Cocaine or Crack

Over 710,000 Canadians (3.5%) have used cocaine at some time in their lives. In addition, 280,000 adult Canadians (1.4%) are current users of cocaine — that is, they report having used this substance during the year preceding the survey (Table 39).

As with other illicit drugs, the rate of use of cocaine is consistently higher among men than women (Figure 43). One out of every 20 men (4.5%) report using cocaine at some time in their lives, compared to 2.7% of women. Likewise, 2.0% of men reported using cocaine in the year preceding the survey, compared to 0.8% of women (Table 39).

As with cannabis, the use of cocaine is concentrated in the younger age categories (Figure 48). The highest rate of use is reported by Canadians age 25 to

Figure 46:
Percentage of population who reported using cannabis or cocaine/crack in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

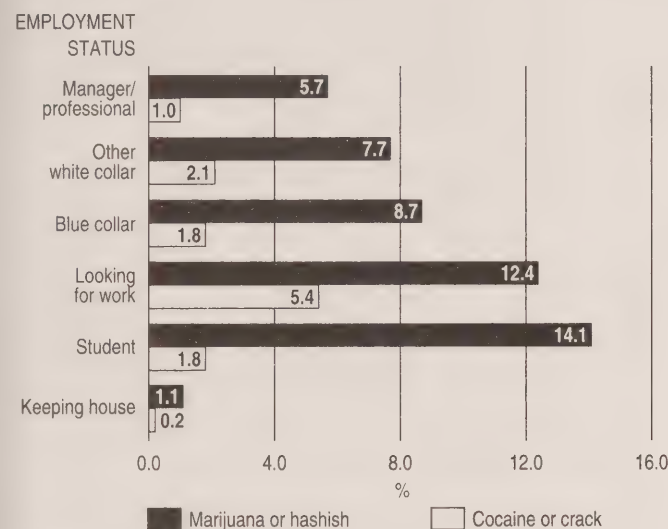


Figure 47:
Frequency of cannabis use in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

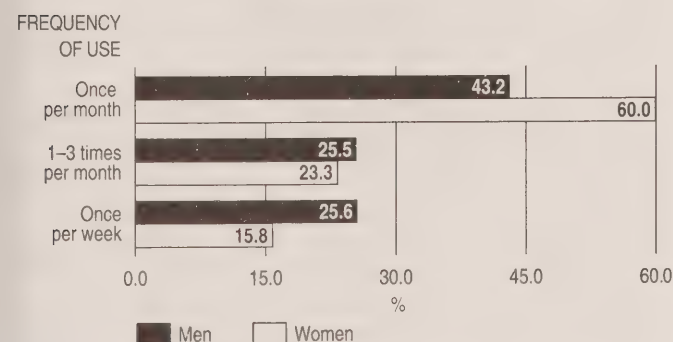
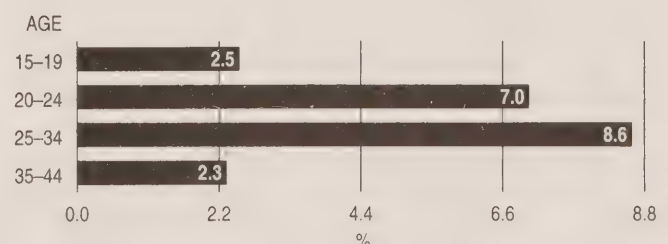


Figure 48:
Percentage of population who have “ever” used cocaine or crack, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



34 (8.6%) and those age 20 to 24 (7.0%). Among men, the highest rate of use is reported by those age 25 to 34 (Table 38). Approximately one out of every ten men (10.6%) in this age group have used cocaine or crack at some point in their lives. Among women, the highest rate of use is also reported by those age 25 to 34. An estimated one out of every 15 women (6.7%) in this age group have used cocaine or crack during their lifetimes.

The highest rates of current cocaine use (3.3%) are reported by Canadians age 25 to 34. Approximately one out of every 20 men (4.9%) and one out of every 50 women (1.8%) in this age group used cocaine during the year prior to the survey.

The highest rates of lifetime use of cocaine or crack are reported in British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta (Table 39). In British Columbia, an estimated 7.2% of residents have tried cocaine, and 2.1% are current users. One out of every 25 Quebec residents (4.1%) report some personal use of cocaine or crack, and one out of 50 (2.0%) reported using this drug in the year preceding the survey. In Alberta, 37 adults per 1,000 (3.7%) report having used cocaine, and 11 out of 1,000 (1.1%) did so during the year preceding the survey.

With respect to marital status, the highest rates of use of cocaine are reported by single (never married) individuals (7.4%), followed by Canadians who are divorced (6.1%) or separated (5.5%). Approximately 4.7% of single men and 2.2% of single women reported using cocaine or crack in the year preceding the survey. The proportions of current users from other marital status groups are too low to permit reliable estimates (Table 40).

In terms of employment status, white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (2.1%), blue-collar workers (1.8%) and students (1.8%) are more likely than other groups to be current users of cocaine (Figure 46).

Cocaine use is apparently much less prevalent in Canada than in the United States. In 1988, 12% of 18 to 25 year old Americans reported that they had used cocaine in the year prior to being surveyed (United States Department of Health and Human Services 1989). In Canada, the rate of cocaine use within this age group is approximately 3%.

General Trends

A number of trends are evident from inspection of the data in this study and, to a lesser degree, through comparisons with other Health and Welfare Canada surveys.

To begin with, it is apparent that for each category of illicit drug use the proportion of former users is far greater than the proportion of current users. For example, although 23.2% of adult Canadians have some experience with cannabis, only 6.5% are current users. Similarly, although 3.5% of the population have used cocaine, only 1.4% are current users. This trend towards cessation of drug experimentation is clearly most pronounced among older users, those 25 to 44 years of age. The extent to which this reflects a repudiation of drug-related lifestyles, as opposed to changing patterns of drug experimentation, must be confirmed by further research.

The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey concerning marijuana and hashish can best be compared to the results of a national survey conducted by the Gallup organization for Health and Welfare Canada in 1980 (Canadian Gallup Poll Ltd. 1980) and the 1985 Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988). The 1980 survey focused only upon adults 18 years of age and over. As a result, the comparisons discussed in this report are restricted to this age group.

Current use of marijuana among adult Canadians, 18 years of age and over, declined markedly from 1980 to 1985 (Table 42). From 1985 to 1989, use seems to have essentially stabilized, as a 1% difference could easily be attributable to any number of design, methodological or related factors. The finding that marijuana use declined over the first half of the decade and then stabilized has also been reported by U.S. researchers (Isikoff 1989; Johnston et al. 1989; Bachman et al. 1988).

Consistent with survey data, crime statistics also suggest that there has been a decline in the use of marijuana over the past decade. Between 1980 and 1987, the number of cannabis offences in Canada declined 34%, from 65,000 to 43,000. However, offences involving cannabis still made up 70% of all drug offences in 1987, down from 87% in 1980 and 90% in 1976 (Johnson 1988).

Survey research conducted in the United States suggests that use of cocaine has increased dramatically since the 1970s. For example, the proportion of American young adults (18 to 24) reporting current cocaine use increased from 6% in 1976 to 22% in 1983 (Smart 1986).

The only previous survey to address cocaine use in the general Canadian population was the 1985 Health Promotion Survey. At that time, 0.9% of adult Canadians reported using cocaine during the year preceding the survey, compared to 1.4% in the present study. It would be premature, however, to conclude that cocaine use has increased during this period. High sampling variability and subtle variations in methodology, response rate and question wording could conceivably account for differences of this magnitude. Nevertheless, survey research conducted in Ontario also suggests that cocaine use in this country may be on the increase. The rate of lifetime cocaine use among Ontario adults apparently doubled between 1984 and 1987 — from 3% to 6% of the population (Adlaf and Smart 1991).

The conclusion that cocaine use is on the increase in Canada is also supported by both treatment admissions and crime statistics. For example, between 1983 and 1988, the number of clients seeking treatment at the Addiction Research Foundation and citing cocaine as their primary problem increased fivefold — from 4.4% to 21.3% (Adlaf and Smart 1989). Furthermore, the incidence of cocaine offences known to police rose almost 400% between 1980 and 1987, from 1,700 to 8,200. This includes a 22% increase in 1987 alone. As a result of this increase, cocaine offences made up 13% of all drug offences in 1987, compared to 2% in 1980 (Johnson 1988). It is important to note, however, that arrests may or may not be associated with the actual extent of cocaine use. Clearly, enforcement priorities and level of funding are important factors that can change arrest rates. Thus, although the increase in cocaine use is not nearly as great in Canada as it is in the United States, the situation deserves monitoring — especially because many of the fads in drug use witnessed in this country originate south of the border (Smart 1986).

Discussion

Results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that over one million Canadians cur-

rently use marijuana, and that an additional quarter million currently use cocaine or crack. Thus, although a significant proportion of the population uses illicit substances, the findings seem to contradict the notion held by many people that Canada is being swept by a “drug epidemic.”

It is possible that this contradiction exists because the present survey underestimates the true extent of illicit drug use in Canada. Because these substances are illegal, Canadians may underreport their use because they distrust researchers and fear prosecution (Bachman and O'Malley 1981; Smart and Jarvis 1981). It is also possible that the survey did not reach certain hard-core users. For example, there is evidence that the use of certain drugs is particularly high among street people and the homeless — populations that would not be reached through telephone survey techniques.

Other sources of information may also tend to exaggerate the extent of the drug problem. For example, although measures such as availability, seizures and drug-related arrests may be associated with use, they are not direct measures of it. For example, police funding and enforcement priorities can influence rates of arrests, seizures and convictions regardless of the true extent of use (Adlaf and Smart 1989).

There is evidence to suggest that public intolerance regarding illegal drug use has increased significantly over the past decade. As a result, despite decreasing or stable levels of drug use, many people believe that rates are still very high. Extensive media coverage of the drug problem may be an important determinant of current public perceptions. For example, recent analysis has revealed a disproportionate increase in cocaine news stories relative to actual cocaine use (Erickson et al. 1987). In addition, part of the public perception of a drug problem may stem from exposure to the media in the United States, where the drug problem in large urban areas is greater than that which exists in Canadian cities (Adlaf and Smart 1989).

It is also important to note that survey estimates are only indications of societal use. In other words, rates of illicit drug use are averaged among large and varying geographic areas and social classes. This means that certain communities or neighbourhoods

may be experiencing severe drug problems that are not covered by aggregate survey results. However, as Adlaf and Smart (1989) note, the existence of community-level problems does not invalidate survey estimates. Nor, on the other hand, do survey estimates invalidate the existence of community-level problems. The estimates provided above demonstrate only that "localized problems are not typical nor endemic to the population at large" (Adlaf and Smart 1989:51).

Although there may be some underestimation regarding the extent of illicit drug use in Canada, the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey should not impair intergroup comparisons. Consistent with previous research, the results indicate that the use of marijuana and cocaine is much more prevalent among younger than older individuals (Eliany 1989b; United States Department of Health and Human Services 1989; Adlaf and Smart 1989; Johnston et al. 1989; Health and Welfare Canada 1988; Adrian et al. 1988b; McKim and Mishara 1987; Smart 1986). Rates of current use are generally low in early adolescence (ages 12 and 13), rise steeply into the late teenage years, remain high during the early 20s and drop off in the late 20s and early 30s. Over the age of 50, illicit drug use is extremely rare (Kandel and Logan 1984; Kandel 1980).

Many experts believe that one of the main reasons for this pattern is that there is a direct relationship between age and the acquisition of adult roles and responsibilities (Kandel 1980:249-250). In support of this hypothesis, Brown et al. (1974) found that the cessation of marijuana use among college students is not due to changes in attitudes towards illicit drugs but to the constraints imposed by job situations, family responsibilities and changes in friendship patterns after graduation. Indeed, the results of this and other Canadian and U.S. research indicate that the employed have significantly lower rates of drug use than do students and unemployed persons of the same age. Married individuals are also less likely to use illicit drugs than are single, separated or divorced persons.

There is considerable evidence to support the finding that men are more likely to use illicit drugs than women (Eliany 1989b; United States Department of Health and Human Services 1989; Adlaf and Smart 1989; Johnston et al. 1989; Health and Welfare

Canada 1988; Adrian et al. 1988b; Smart 1986; Colten and Marsh 1984; Ferrence and Whitehead 1980). As with alcohol use, the primary explanation for the difference between male and female rates of illicit drug use is based on a sex role perspective. In general, experts suggest that gender socialization orients women and men towards different patterns of drug use. Although the heavy use of alcohol and/or illicit drugs is disapproved whether it occurs among women or men, it is widely held that such behaviour is less acceptable among women (Gomberg 1986). A number of studies have indeed found that the social reaction towards women who have indulged in non-medical drug use is more extreme and negative than that accorded to similar behaviour in men (Fillmore 1984b; Colten and Marsh 1984; Marsh et al. 1982). Drug-using women are perceived as being impaired in their traditional feminine roles as nurturer and care-giver in the home and as moral standard bearer for society (Erickson and Murray 1989:138).

Women, it is argued, are taught that although it is acceptable to use drugs for medicinal, therapeutic purposes, it is inappropriate to use substances for pleasure or in order to get "high." As a result, women gravitate towards the moderate use of legal, socially acceptable substances and the use of prescription drugs (Cooperstock and Parnell 1982). Indeed, the results of the present survey indicate that the use of licit drugs is in fact more common among women than men (see next section). This trend has led some to suggest that the decriminalization of illicit drugs could lead to a disproportionate increase in use among women (Ferrence and Whitehead 1980).

In conclusion, although the use and abuse of illicit drugs cannot be ignored, the issue must be put into perspective. According to the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, approximately 12% of current drinkers (1.9 million people) have experienced an alcohol-related problem (see Chapter Six). By contrast, cocaine is used by less than 2% of the population (280,000), of which only 3% to 20% (8,400 to 56,000) are likely to be at risk of significant problems (Clayton 1985; Smith 1986). As Adlaf and Smart (1989:53) note, "if public concern and social policy are to be based on the harm caused to the greatest number of individuals, then clearly, alcohol far outranks the problems caused by illegal drugs."

Licit Drug Use

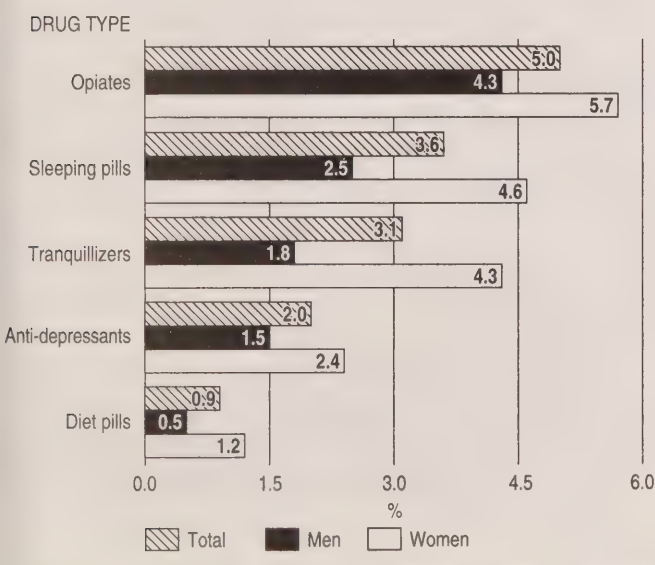
Definitions and General Findings

The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey questioned respondents about a broad array of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Of the five classes of licit drugs studied in this report, prescription opiates (including codeine, demerol and morphine) are the most widely used, followed by sleeping pills, tranquilizers, anti-depressants and diet pills or other stimulants (Figure 49).

One out of every 20 adult Canadians (5.0%) reported using a prescription opiate in the 30 days prior to the survey, whereas 3.6% used sleeping pills and 3.1% used tranquilizers. Two percent of the population reported using anti-depressants, whereas 0.9% reported that they had used diet pills or stimulants (Table 43).

Because of the relatively small population of users of anti-depressants and diet pills or other stimulants, descriptions of the user populations throughout the remainder of this chapter have been restricted to the other three classes of medication: opiates and narcotics, sleeping pills and tranquilizers.

Figure 49:
Percentage of population who used selected licit drugs in the month preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Opiates and Narcotics

The results of the survey suggest that over one million Canadians (5.0%) used a prescription opiate (codeine, demerol or morphine) in the 30 days preceding the survey. This finding is consistent with other data, compiled in 1980, which found codeine to be the most widely used licit narcotic in the country. In fact, evidence suggests that Canada's per capita consumption of this substance (394 kg per million) is fourth highest in the world (Adrian et al. 1988b). With this in mind, the relatively high rate of consumption reported in the present survey is not surprising.

Regardless of age, a higher proportion of women than men use prescription opiates or narcotics (Figure 49 and Table 43). Overall, 5.7% of Canadian women and 4.3% of men reported taking codeine, morphine or demerol in the 30 days prior to the survey.

Unlike tranquilizers and sleeping pills, the use of prescription opiates is slightly more prevalent among younger people. For example, 6.2% of those between 20 and 24 years of age reported using this type of drug in the month preceding the survey, compared to 4.0% of those 65 years of age and over (Table 43).

The highest rates of use are found in Alberta (7.6%), British Columbia (6.7%), Ontario (6.3%) and Manitoba (5.9%). The lowest rate of use is found in Quebec, where only 1.7% of residents reported using codeine, demerol or morphine in the month preceding the survey (Table 44). Consistent with regional findings, the use of these drugs is much more prevalent among Anglophones (6.2%) than Francophones (2.2%) (Table 45).

With few exceptions, the use of opiates and narcotics increases with increasing household income (Table 46) and education (Table 47). Whether these rates reflect a higher level of use among these groups or merely differences in awareness of the constituents of prescription medications cannot be determined in this study.

Sleeping Pills

The data indicate that approximately 730,000 adult Canadians (3.6% of the total population) used sleeping pills during the 30 days prior to the survey

(Figure 49). As with all other licit substances, the rate of use is higher among women (4.6%) than men (2.5%) (Figure 49). This gender difference exists in all age categories (Table 43).

Sleeping pill use is much more common among older than younger Canadians (Figure 50). The highest percentage of users is found among those 65 years of age and older. Approximately one out of every ten Canadians in this age category (11.1%) reported that they used sleeping pills in the 30 days preceding the survey, compared to 1.3% of individuals between 25 and 34 years of age.

Quebec is the only province where the percentage of residents using sleeping pills (4.5%) is greater than

Figure 50:
Percentage of population who used sleeping pills in the month preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

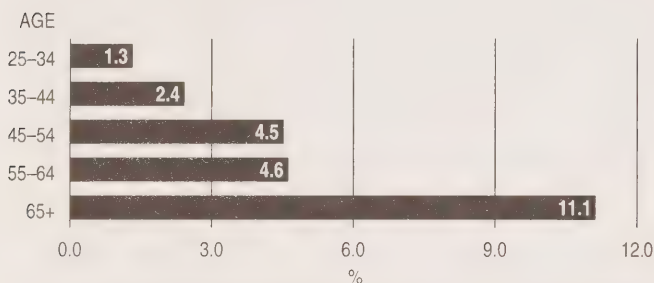
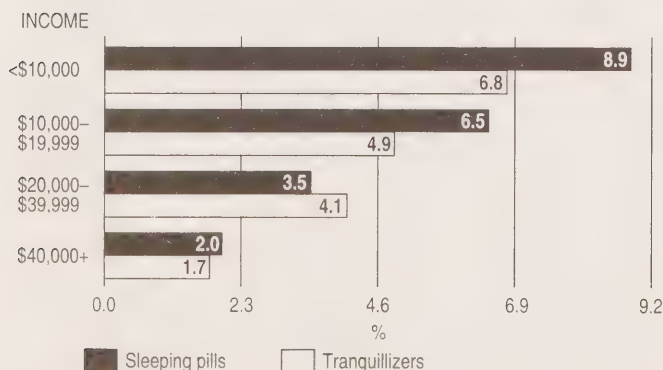


Figure 51:
Percentage of population who used sleeping pills or tranquillizers in the month preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



the national rate (3.6%). All other provinces are at or below the national rate (Table 44). Prince Edward Island (1.9%), Saskatchewan (1.9%), Newfoundland (2.1%) and Nova Scotia (2.3%) have the lowest percentages of users. Consistent with regional variations, the rate of sleeping pill use is higher among Francophones (4.5%) than Anglophones (3.3%) and those who speak other languages in the home (3.3%) (Table 45).

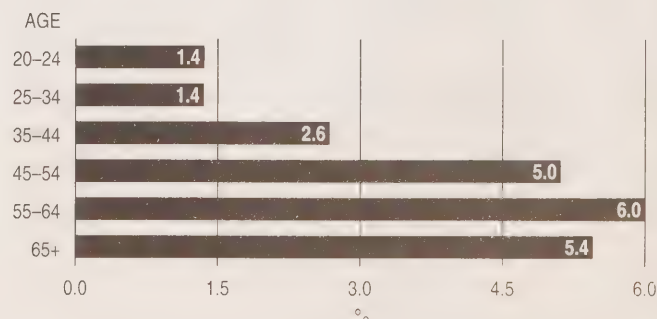
Sleeping pill usage varies inversely with both household income (Figure 51 and Table 46) and education (Table 47). Approximately one out of every 20 persons (5.1%) with less than a secondary school education reported using sleeping pills in the 30 days preceding the survey, compared to 2.0% of Canadians with a university degree. Of Canadians reporting a household income of less than \$10,000, 8.9% reported sleeping pill usage. This declines to 2.0% among Canadians with a household income of \$40,000 or more.

Tranquillizers

Approximately 630,000 adult Canadians (or 3.1% of the total population) used tranquillizers in the 30 days prior to the survey (Figure 49). As with sleeping pills, the rate of tranquillizer use is significantly higher among women (4.3%) than men (1.8%) (Table 43).

The data also indicate that there is a positive relationship between age and the prevalence of tranquillizer use (Figure 52). For example, only 1.4% of those between 20 and 24 years of age used this drug

Figure 52:
Percentage of population who used tranquillizers in the month preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



in the month prior to the survey, compared to 5.4% of those 65 and over. The highest rate of tranquillizer use (9.6%) is found among women between 55 and 64 years of age (Table 43).

The highest rates of tranquillizer use are found among the residents of Quebec (4.3%) and New Brunswick (3.9%) (Table 44). Consistent with regional findings, a higher percentage of Francophones (4.6%) than Anglophones (2.6%) reported tranquillizer use during the 30 days prior to the survey (Table 45).

As with sleeping pills, there appears to be a negative relationship between the prevalence of tranquillizer use and both income (Table 46) and education (Table 47). The highest rates of tranquillizer use are reported by Canadians with less than a secondary school education (4.2%) and by those with a household income of less than \$10,000 per year (6.8%).

Discussion

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that age and sex are the strongest predictors of licit drug use. However, unlike the use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs, the use of licit substances appears to be more common among women than men and among older than younger individuals. Previous studies conducted in Canada, the United States, Europe and Australia tend to confirm this basic pattern (see reviews in Eliany 1989b; McKim and Mishara 1987; Gombert 1986; Bell and Havlicek 1984; Cooperstock and Parnell 1982; Ferrence and Whitehead 1980). Thus, although attention to drug use has tended to focus on illicit substance abuse among young people, these findings suggest that the use of licit drugs by aging Canadians may be just as important a health issue.

One possible explanation for the positive relationship between licit drug use and age is that the elderly tend to have more chronic illnesses and thus benefit from drug therapy. Indeed, the Canada Health Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1981) found that although individuals 65 years of age and older represent 9% of the population, they account for over 20% of those reporting health problems. Using U.S. data, Guttman (1978) found a positive correlation between the use of medicines and poor health. He also found that approximately 40% of the elderly population feel that they would not be able to carry on their daily

activities without the use of prescription drugs. Other studies have suggested that, among those without health problems, age does not inevitably lead to the increased use of medications (McKim and Mishara 1987; Skelton 1985).

Clearly, health status helps to explain the disproportionate use of licit drugs among older populations. However, other research suggests that it is not the only factor. A recent study in Newfoundland found that the best predictor of drug use was the presence and severity of health problems. However, closely following actual disease was a self-rating of general health (McKim et al. 1986). This suggests that thinking you are unhealthy is almost as important as actually being unhealthy.

It is also possible that the increased use of licit drugs among women and the elderly is due, at least in part, to their greater exposure to physicians. In the Canada Health Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1981), persons 65 years of age and over were more than twice as likely as the general population to report visiting a doctor ten or more times a year. Research also shows that, regardless of the measures used, women use health care services at a much higher rate than men (McKim and Mishara 1987; Pope 1982; Schoenborn et al. 1981; Mechanic and Cleary 1980).

There are some researchers who speculate that physicians tend to respond to all complaints with a drug prescription — whether the patient really needs it or not (Mandolini 1981; Hewes and Brewin 1979; Waldron 1977). Therefore, the relatively high rate of licit drug use among women and the elderly stems from their increased exposure to physicians and, consequently, drug prescriptions. Indeed, a report by the Royal College of Physicians of London (1984) identified excessive prescribing as one of the major causes of drug problems among the elderly. This report also suggested that doctors often overprescribe because of pressure from patients and the pharmaceutical industry. Other researchers have also presented evidence that suggests that, in order to meet the interests of both pharmaceutical manufacturers and the medical profession, western societies have become “overmedicated” (Neubeck 1991; Hewes and Brewin 1979; Butler 1975).

It is important to note that doctors cannot be held completely responsible for the increased use of licit

substances among women and older populations. A more detailed examination indicates that 25% to 40% of the medications used by these groups are not prescribed by physicians (May et al. 1982; Murray 1974). Thus, women and the elderly must be seen as at least partially responsible for their own elevated use of specific medications.

It is also widely believed that social and cultural influences are extremely important in determining sex differences in health care-related behaviours, including the use of licit medications (Whittington et al. 1981; Nathanson 1977). For example, some researchers argue that the nurturant role that women play prevents them from taking adequate care of themselves. As a result, they are more likely than men to suffer from mental disorders and mild physical illnesses. These health problems require more attention from physicians and more drug treatment. However, these problems are not life threatening, and the mortality rate for women remains lower than that for men (Grove and Hughes 1979).

Verbrugge's (1982) report suggests that "personal characteristics" account for the fact that women use more legal drugs than men. The "personal characteristics" of women include having less active social roles, experiencing more disruptive events and morbidity, considering their health to be worse, feeling helpless about life and being unable to ignore symptoms as easily as men.

Cooperstock (1971) suggests that sex differences reported in the use of prescription drugs are a function of both the sex role orientation of women in western society and the expectations physicians have regarding the nature of women's medical complaints. She argues that doctors expect women to be more expressive than men and that they believe women's expression of health-related difficulties likely represents emotional as well as purely medical problems. Thus, "physicians expect that a higher proportion of female than male patients require mood-modifiers" (Cooperstock 1971:241).

Currently, there is no decisive explanation for why women use more licit drugs than men. Is this pattern due to more physician visits by female patients, to physicians' attitudes and stereotypes towards men and women or to women's greater need or desire for medication? Further research is needed to clarify these issues.

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Table 1:

Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Canada	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
Nfld.	961	427	11.2	21.2	67.6	50.2	31.3	11.8	6.7	3.7
Male	446	211	*4.7	17.4	77.9	38.4	34.0	16.1	11.6	5.3
Female	515	216	17.5	24.8	57.7	65.8	27.8	*6.1	—	1.5
P.E.I.	828	98	10.2	26.0	63.7	55.3	30.0	8.5	6.1	3.1
Male	412	48	*5.3	24.1	70.6	46.7	30.1	13.2	*10.0	4.7
Female	416	50	15.0	27.9	57.1	65.6	29.9	3.0	—	1.3
N.S.	1,259	690	9.2	19.5	71.2	56.9	31.3	7.1	4.7	2.8
Male	557	336	*4.8	17.6	77.5	49.6	32.9	9.1	8.4	4.2
Female	702	354	13.4	21.4	65.2	65.0	29.5	*5.0	—	1.3
N.B.	812	552	12.6	19.4	68.0	60.9	27.8	6.6	4.7	2.8
Male	386	269	*7.4	15.4	77.2	51.1	31.2	*10.2	*7.5	4.1
Female	426	283	17.6	23.1	59.3	72.9	23.5	—	—	1.2
Que.	1,808	5,237	9.0	14.6	76.4	45.5	40.2	7.5	6.8	3.9
Male	789	2,541	*3.9	11.9	84.2	35.6	42.3	10.9	11.2	5.7
Female	1,019	2,697	13.9	17.1	69.0	56.9	37.9	*3.5	*1.7	1.7
Ont.	1,974	7,486	5.7	16.6	77.6	46.5	37.3	7.3	8.9	3.9
Male	899	3,653	*3.3	13.1	83.6	38.6	37.3	10.0	14.1	5.4
Female	1,075	3,832	8.1	20.0	72.0	55.2	37.3	*4.4	*3.1	2.3
Man.	947	830	4.2	16.5	79.3	52.1	35.6	7.8	4.4	3.0
Male	418	406	*4.9	9.9	85.3	47.0	34.9	10.7	*7.4	4.1
Female	529	425	*3.6	22.9	73.6	57.8	36.4	*4.7	—	1.7
Sask.	921	748	4.9	16.7	78.4	52.7	33.5	7.8	6.0	3.4
Male	412	370	*3.0	13.9	83.1	43.2	36.0	10.4	10.4	5.1
Female	509	378	*6.8	19.4	73.9	63.2	30.7	*4.9	—	1.5
Alta.	992	1,826	5.9	12.2	81.9	43.1	42.0	8.7	6.2	3.7
Male	460	911	*4.2	8.5	87.3	31.8	46.1	12.9	9.3	5.1
Female	532	916	*7.5	16.0	76.5	55.9	37.4	*4.0	*2.8	2.0
B.C.	1,132	2,390	3.2	13.8	82.9	44.0	41.1	6.7	8.2	3.8
Male	512	1,174	*3.0	11.6	85.4	35.5	42.3	10.7	11.6	5.4
Female	620	1,215	*3.5	16.0	80.6	52.7	39.9	*2.7	*4.7	2.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 2:
Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Canada	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
Nfld.	653	289	31.1	24.1	21.3	18.4	*4.8	3.65	219.5
Male	351	164	17.2	22.7	25.6	27.6	*6.9	4.51	321.0
Female	302	125	49.4	26.0	15.7	*6.3	—	2.52	85.54
P.E.I.	537	63	29.2	29.9	17.2	17.2	*6.3	3.51	233.8
Male	295	34	16.7	27.1	20.9	25.1	*10.3	4.31	359.3
Female	242	29	44.2	33.2	*12.8	*7.9	—	2.56	84.26
N.S.	873	491	32.4	26.6	20.0	15.1	5.5	3.30	192.2
Male	428	261	20.1	26.4	25.6	19.7	*7.8	4.06	281.5
Female	445	231	46.3	26.9	13.8	*10.0	—	2.44	92.29
N.B.	554	376	34.0	29.3	17.6	12.6	*5.3	3.52	216.2
Male	304	208	21.6	27.6	24.0	18.2	*7.6	4.44	331.9
Female	250	168	49.3	31.4	*9.7	*5.6	—	2.39	73.44
Que.	1,372	3,999	25.1	24.0	20.1	20.2	10.5	2.65	253.5
Male	666	2,140	16.7	19.7	21.3	26.8	15.4	3.20	380.4
Female	706	1,859	34.8	29.1	18.7	12.6	*4.9	2.03	107.5
Ont.	1,549	5,812	25.6	23.3	17.8	20.0	12.8	2.62	233.0
Male	750	3,053	16.9	21.1	19.0	24.7	17.6	3.01	321.1
Female	799	2,759	35.2	25.8	16.5	14.7	7.5	2.20	136.1
Man.	752	658	30.6	28.9	19.3	14.5	6.2	3.28	187.6
Male	355	346	22.2	27.9	21.1	18.7	*9.1	3.90	267.4
Female	397	312	39.9	30.0	17.3	*9.9	*2.9	2.61	100.7
Sask.	713	587	28.0	31.6	18.8	15.0	6.3	3.06	186.6
Male	342	308	16.3	30.2	20.1	23.3	*10.1	3.58	284.0
Female	371	279	40.8	33.2	17.4	*6.0	—	2.49	78.81
Alta.	821	1,496	23.7	24.6	20.3	22.1	9.3	3.00	232.2
Male	404	795	11.9	22.4	23.5	29.2	13.0	3.44	318.0
Female	417	701	37.0	27.0	16.7	14.1	*5.2	2.49	135.5
B.C.	936	1,982	23.9	24.3	16.0	21.8	12.0	2.67	234.0
Male	437	1,002	17.0	19.8	16.5	29.1	16.6	3.07	334.7
Female	499	979	30.9	28.8	15.5	14.3	*7.2	2.25	128.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:

Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Canada	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
Nfld.	653	289	37.2	31.2	12.8	17.5
Male	351	164	18.2	33.7	18.3	28.1
Female	302	125	62.1	28.0	*5.5	—
P.E.I.	537	63	41.8	30.0	11.1	15.4
Male	295	34	30.2	28.9	15.2	23.5
Female	242	29	55.5	31.4	*6.3	*5.8
N.S.	873	491	44.9	29.6	11.1	13.1
Male	428	261	28.9	30.8	16.1	21.8
Female	445	231	62.9	28.3	*5.4	*3.2
N.B.	554	376	47.4	26.4	10.1	13.8
Male	304	208	34.7	25.9	*14.3	22.3
Female	250	168	63.2	27.1	*4.9	—
Que.	1,372	3,999	52.1	27.9	8.2	11.8
Male	666	2,140	37.2	32.3	11.9	18.6
Female	706	1,859	69.3	22.9	*3.9	*3.9
Ont.	1,549	5,812	51.1	27.3	10.0	10.4
Male	750	3,053	39.5	29.9	12.8	16.2
Female	799	2,759	63.9	24.5	6.8	*3.9
Man.	752	658	42.8	29.6	13.1	12.9
Male	355	346	32.3	29.8	16.1	20.1
Female	397	312	54.4	29.4	9.8	*5.1
Sask.	713	587	42.8	32.2	13.5	11.0
Male	342	308	28.4	32.0	20.7	18.3
Female	371	279	58.7	32.3	*5.5	—
Alta.	821	1,496	43.7	30.5	12.7	12.3
Male	404	795	32.9	31.3	16.8	18.4
Female	417	701	56.0	29.6	*8.1	*5.4
B.C.	936	1,982	50.4	26.5	8.0	11.7
Male	437	1,002	38.6	29.9	11.3	17.0
Female	499	979	62.4	23.1	*4.7	*6.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:
Percentages of different types of drinkers, age 15+, Canada, 1978–1979, 1985 and 1989

Type of drinker	1978–1979 ^a	1985 ^b	1989 ^c
Lifetime abstainer	13	8	7
Former drinker (used to drink, but did not have a drink in the 12 months preceding the survey)	4	10	15
Current drinker (consumed alcohol in the 12 months preceding the survey)	82	81	78
Occasional drinker (consumes alcohol less than once per month)	15	20	26
Frequent drinker (consumes alcohol at least once per month)	67	61	52

SOURCES:

^a Canada Health Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1981)

^b Canada's Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988)

^c HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 5:
Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1–7	8–13	14+	
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
15–19	838	1,866	11.6	14.1	74.3	61.0	29.8	*5.5	*3.7	2.4
Male	412	956	12.2	11.8	76.0	56.4	31.1	*7.1	*5.4	3.1
Female	426	910	11.0	16.6	72.4	66.2	28.4	—	—	1.5
20–24	1,049	2,034	*3.8	8.3	87.9	45.0	36.6	9.5	9.0	4.3
Male	489	1,027	*2.6	*4.3	93.1	35.5	36.4	13.5	14.7	6.1
Female	560	1,007	*5.0	12.4	82.6	55.9	36.8	*4.8	—	2.2
25–34	3,059	4,670	3.7	9.3	86.9	44.2	40.7	8.9	6.2	3.7
Male	1,396	2,318	*1.5	6.6	91.9	34.3	41.8	13.5	10.4	5.5
Female	1,663	2,352	5.8	12.0	82.1	55.1	39.5	*3.9	*1.5	1.8
35–44	2,352	3,962	3.8	13.0	83.1	44.4	41.2	7.3	7.2	3.7
Male	1,152	1,971	*2.1	12.5	85.4	35.4	43.0	10.1	11.5	5.2
Female	1,200	1,991	5.5	13.6	80.9	53.8	39.3	*4.3	*2.7	2.1
45–54	1,371	2,701	6.8	16.7	76.5	41.1	40.6	8.4	9.9	4.3
Male	673	1,349	*3.1	12.0	84.9	36.1	37.2	12.7	14.0	5.7
Female	698	1,352	10.5	21.4	68.0	47.4	44.7	*3.1	*4.8	2.7
55–64	1,207	2,334	6.4	21.4	72.1	49.6	35.9	*5.9	8.7	3.8
Male	529	1,137	*3.0	17.4	79.7	37.3	41.6	*7.9	13.3	5.6
Female	678	1,197	9.7	25.3	64.9	64.0	29.2	*3.5	*3.3	1.7
65+	1,758	2,718	14.6	31.1	54.3	53.3	33.8	4.3	8.6	3.5
Male	640	1,162	*6.4	27.6	65.9	43.5	37.8	4.9	13.8	5.0
Female	1,118	1,557	20.6	33.7	45.7	63.7	29.5	*3.8	*3.0	1.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 6:

Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
15-19	610	1,385	40.1	29.5	16.4	11.8	*2.0	3.47	164.8
Male	307	726	32.7	28.8	20.6	*14.6	—	3.94	220.4
Female	303	659	48.3	30.3	*11.8	*8.7	—	2.96	103.4
20-24	925	1,787	20.2	27.5	24.8	22.7	*4.8	3.87	280.1
Male	456	955	13.2	21.8	26.8	31.7	*6.6	4.66	389.5
Female	469	832	28.3	34.1	22.4	12.3	—	2.97	155.0
25-34	2,634	4,061	23.2	27.2	21.9	21.0	6.6	2.97	217.1
Male	1,261	2,130	12.0	23.7	24.9	29.3	10.0	3.48	319.5
Female	1,373	1,931	35.5	31.1	18.6	11.8	*2.8	2.41	104.6
35-44	1,912	3,293	25.1	22.9	18.0	22.5	11.3	2.53	221.8
Male	967	1,683	16.3	20.9	19.4	27.6	15.7	2.93	312.9
Female	945	1,611	34.3	25.1	16.5	17.1	*6.7	2.10	126.7
45-54	1,013	2,065	22.1	21.5	17.7	21.7	16.4	2.52	271.0
Male	538	1,145	15.3	18.7	16.0	28.0	21.3	2.97	383.5
Female	475	920	30.6	25.0	20.0	13.9	*10.3	1.97	132.0
55-64	787	1,683	28.2	21.2	14.3	19.2	16.1	2.28	265.0
Male	397	906	16.4	19.4	16.6	24.2	21.9	2.81	389.9
Female	390	777	41.9	23.3	*11.6	13.3	*9.2	1.67	120.9
65+	879	1,477	31.3	20.9	12.1	11.4	21.7	1.74	216.3
Male	406	766	23.3	18.3	*12.4	*12.4	31.9	2.01	313.4
Female	473	711	39.9	23.7	*11.7	*10.3	*10.7	1.44	108.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 7:

Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
15-19	610	1,385	38.6	34.9	10.5	15.7
Male	307	726	34.6	32.3	*9.3	23.7
Female	303	659	43.0	37.6	*11.7	*6.8
20-24	925	1,787	28.6	35.3	13.1	22.7
Male	456	955	18.1	31.7	17.3	32.8
Female	469	832	40.8	39.5	*8.2	*11.2
25-34	2,634	4,061	39.9	34.5	11.9	12.7
Male	1,261	2,130	25.9	36.3	16.4	20.3
Female	1,373	1,931	55.4	32.5	7.0	*4.4
35-44	1,912	3,293	50.0	29.1	11.1	9.0
Male	967	1,683	34.8	32.3	17.4	14.5
Female	945	1,611	65.9	25.8	*4.4	*3.3
45-54	1,013	2,065	54.7	23.6	9.6	10.1
Male	538	1,145	37.8	31.1	12.3	16.2
Female	475	920	75.8	14.3	*6.1	—
55-64	787	1,683	69.5	17.2	*5.3	6.6
Male	397	906	56.3	23.7	*7.5	*10.8
Female	390	777	84.9	*9.5	—	—
65+	879	1,477	78.2	11.8	*2.9	*3.9
Male	406	766	69.7	16.8	*4.7	*6.3
Female	473	711	87.3	*6.4	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:

Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed by current drinkers in the week preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Total population	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	10.1	24.2	65.8	55.4	29.9	6.2	8.5	3.8
Male	1,962	3,349	5.7	19.3	75.1	45.7	31.6	9.4	13.2	5.5
Female	2,179	3,395	14.5	29.0	56.6	68.0	27.6	2.0	2.4	1.5
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	5.9	12.8	81.2	45.8	39.2	7.8	7.3	3.8
Male	1,350	2,597	2.8	9.4	87.8	35.2	40.6	12.4	11.8	5.5
Female	1,766	3,071	8.6	15.7	75.7	56.1	37.8	3.3	2.8	2.1
Some post-secondary										
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	4.4	9.7	85.9	42.5	41.7	8.1	7.7	3.9
Male	1,137	2,271	2.5	8.3	89.2	34.6	41.4	11.0	13.0	5.7
Female	1,556	2,494	6.1	11.1	82.9	50.3	41.9	5.3	2.6	2.2
University degree	1,577	2,865	3.7	9.1	87.2	39.0	47.0	8.7	5.3	3.5
Male	804	1,606	2.4	7.9	89.7	32.8	49.9	10.3	7.0	4.3
Female	773	1,259	5.3	10.7	84.0	47.5	43.1	6.5	3.0	2.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:

Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Total population	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	33.5	24.4	16.2	15.6	10.0	3.08	259.3
Male	1,437	2,514	22.6	22.3	18.2	21.4	15.2	3.64	384.1
Female	1,168	1,920	47.7	27.2	13.6	8.1	3.2	2.36	96.95
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	24.8	25.0	19.5	20.6	10.2	2.83	230.1
Male	1,153	2,279	13.8	21.6	21.6	29.2	13.9	3.41	334.8
Female	1,321	2,325	35.7	28.3	17.4	12.1	6.5	2.25	127.4
Some post-secondary									
non-university degree	2,260	4,092	23.4	26.1	20.1	20.9	9.5	2.79	223.2
Male	1,008	2,025	15.1	23.2	22.4	26.1	13.2	3.33	322.0
Female	1,252	2,066	31.6	28.9	17.9	15.7	5.8	2.27	126.5
University degree	1,363	2,498	19.1	22.3	19.5	23.6	15.3	2.11	203.5
Male	712	1,440	14.2	19.1	19.9	26.6	19.9	2.25	252.4
Female	651	1,058	25.7	26.5	19.0	19.5	9.2	1.93	137.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 10:
Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total population	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	50.1	27.9	8.0	13.1
Male	1,437	2,514	39.6	29.2	10.7	19.4
Female	1,168	1,920	63.9	26.2	4.5	4.9
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	47.5	28.1	11.5	12.2
Male	1,153	2,279	31.4	31.4	16.2	20.3
Female	1,321	2,325	63.3	25.0	6.8	4.3
Some post-secondary non-university degree	2,260	4,092	47.5	28.5	10.8	12.8
Male	1,008	2,025	33.5	29.6	16.0	20.1
Female	1,252	2,066	61.1	27.4	5.7	5.5
University degree	1,363	2,498	55.5	28.9	9.1	5.5
Male	712	1,440	44.3	35.0	10.9	8.5
Female	651	1,058	70.8	20.5	6.7	1.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:
Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed by current drinkers in the week preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Total population	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
<\$10,000	861	951	10.4	29.8	59.8	60.7	29.4	3.8	6.1	2.6
Male	255	325	4.2	20.1	75.8	53.5	29.8	4.9	11.7	4.0
Female	606	626	13.6	34.8	51.5	66.1	29.1	2.9	1.8	1.5
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	10.3	24.0	65.6	55.9	32.1	6.1	5.9	3.5
Male	836	1,197	4.6	22.8	72.6	44.0	37.0	8.8	10.2	5.7
Female	1,282	1,685	14.4	24.9	60.7	66.0	27.9	3.9	2.2	1.6
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	5.2	14.6	80.1	48.9	36.3	7.2	7.6	3.8
Male	1,683	2,809	3.8	13.1	83.1	40.5	37.1	10.2	12.2	5.3
Female	1,804	2,779	6.7	16.2	77.1	58.0	35.4	3.9	2.6	2.1
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	4.1	9.4	86.5	42.3	41.7	7.8	8.3	4.0
Male	1,142	2,355	1.7	7.7	90.6	35.4	41.3	11.0	12.3	5.4
Female	992	2,025	6.9	11.5	81.6	51.1	42.2	3.6	3.0	2.1
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	2.2	5.9	91.9	33.6	46.7	11.0	8.8	4.6
Male	782	1,972	2.5	5.3	92.2	27.3	45.7	14.7	12.3	5.8
Female	613	1,337	1.8	6.7	91.5	42.8	48.1	5.4	3.7	2.8

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1–3 times per month	Once per week	2–3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Total population	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
<\$10,000	474	569	36.4	26.0	15.3	14.1	7.8	3.23	247.7
Male	179	246	23.8	24.8	18.7	20.1	12.1	4.20	405.7
Female	295	323	45.9	27.0	12.8	9.5	4.4	2.50	127.5
\$10,000–\$19,999	1,384	1,892	34.7	26.9	14.4	14.2	9.8	2.97	237.0
Male	608	869	23.3	24.2	15.9	19.9	16.6	3.53	381.5
Female	776	1,023	44.4	29.1	13.0	9.4	3.9	2.49	114.1
\$20,000–\$39,999	2,773	4,477	27.0	23.3	18.6	19.9	11.2	2.73	241.2
Male	1,396	2,335	18.0	19.8	20.2	26.4	15.5	3.23	347.0
Female	1,377	2,142	36.7	27.1	16.9	12.8	6.5	2.19	126.6
\$40,000–\$59,999	1,859	3,788	21.8	25.4	21.5	20.9	10.5	2.70	221.1
Male	1,031	2,135	11.9	23.0	22.5	28.1	14.5	3.11	310.4
Female	828	1,653	34.5	28.4	20.2	11.6	5.3	2.17	105.7
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	15.9	23.4	21.4	26.1	13.1	2.73	248.7
Male	711	1,818	12.6	19.8	22.6	27.8	17.0	3.11	314.9
Female	560	1,223	20.8	28.9	19.6	23.5	7.2	2.17	150.6

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:

Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1–5	6–14	15+
Total population	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
<\$10,000	474	569	51.1	26.5	6.1	15.5
Male	179	246	40.4	23.9	9.7	24.5
Female	295	323	59.3	28.4	3.3	8.6
\$10,000–\$19,999	1,384	1,892	51.9	29.7	6.4	11.2
Male	608	869	41.8	32.3	7.1	17.6
Female	776	1,023	60.6	27.5	5.7	5.7
\$20,000–\$39,999	2,773	4,477	50.5	27.6	10.1	11.3
Male	1,396	2,335	36.6	30.1	14.6	18.0
Female	1,377	2,142	65.7	24.9	5.3	3.9
\$40,000–\$59,999	1,859	3,788	46.1	30.4	12.1	11.0
Male	1,031	2,135	31.1	35.8	15.8	16.6
Female	828	1,653	65.4	23.3	7.2	3.7
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	46.4	28.8	11.4	12.8
Male	711	1,818	36.9	29.3	15.0	18.3
Female	560	1,223	60.7	28.0	6.1	4.6

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 14:

Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Total population	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	3.0	8.7	88.3	38.2	46.3	8.9	6.6	3.8
Male	1,128	2,170	*1.8	7.5	90.7	30.9	47.9	12.1	9.1	4.8
Female	1,177	1,821	*4.6	10.0	85.4	47.5	44.3	*4.8	*3.4	2.7
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	5.1	12.7	82.2	46.6	38.2	8.5	6.7	3.4
Male	770	1,510	*3.9	11.5	84.6	35.7	37.5	14.3	12.5	5.3
Female	1,486	2,534	5.7	13.4	80.8	53.4	38.6	*5.0	*3.0	2.2
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	*2.5	11.4	86.1	38.9	37.4	10.4	13.2	5.8
Male	1,831	3,192	*1.7	9.7	88.6	36.3	38.0	11.3	14.4	6.2
Female	314	555	*7.2	21.2	71.6	57.6	33.3	*4.3	*4.9	2.7
Looking for work	311	470	*6.4	*11.8	81.8	50.4	37.0	*6.5	*6.0	3.5
Male	178	279	—	*12.8	80.1	42.8	37.3	*9.5	*10.4	5.2
Female	133	191	—	—	84.1	61.0	*36.6	—	—	1.0
Student	1,059	2,265	10.2	12.5	77.3	58.2	32.1	6.1	3.6	2.6
Male	497	1,133	11.2	*9.3	79.5	53.6	31.7	9.1	5.7	3.6
Female	562	1,133	*9.2	15.7	75.1	63.1	32.5	3.0	—	1.5
Retired	1,570	2,587	10.9	30.0	59.1	51.1	35.0	4.5	9.5	3.8
Male	723	1,313	*4.4	27.7	67.9	41.2	40.6	*4.4	13.8	5.1
Female	847	1,273	17.6	32.4	50.0	64.9	27.0	*4.5	—	1.9
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	13.1	23.5	63.4	61.2	34.8	2.2	1.8	1.5
Male	41	59	—	—	82.5	*61.4	*30.4	—	—	3.3
Female	1,725	2,672	13.2	23.8	63.0	61.2	34.9	*2.3	*1.6	1.5
Other	118	204	—	*24.8	69.6	*46.2	*37.9	—	—	6.7
Male	76	135	—	*29.1	68.5	*49.1	*29.5	—	—	9.3
Female	42	69	—	—	71.9	*40.7	*53.4	—	—	2.0

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 15:

Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Total population	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	18.4	23.5	20.9	23.5	13.5	2.39	215.8
Male	1,013	1,969	10.6	21.4	22.3	27.1	18.3	2.60	277.2
Female	1,006	1,555	28.3	26.1	19.1	18.9	7.5	2.14	138.1
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	26.9	26.3	19.9	18.7	8.2	2.78	208.2
Male	648	1,277	17.1	22.4	21.1	26.2	13.2	3.42	327.3
Female	1,198	2,048	33.0	28.8	19.1	14.0	5.1	2.39	134.6
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	16.0	22.1	20.9	28.3	12.6	3.54	356.2
Male	1,572	2,830	14.2	21.1	20.8	30.9	13.1	3.66	382.1
Female	226	397	29.1	29.4	*22.0	*10.4	*8.9	2.67	172.0
Looking for work	239	384	28.7	*22.7	*18.0	*9.9	*9.5	3.97	394.4
Male	137	223	*22.3	*13.8	*18.2	*29.5	*14.1	4.76	618.8
Female	102	160	*37.6	*35.1	*17.7	—	—	2.89	89.15
Student	811	1,751	36.0	30.7	18.0	12.4	*2.9	3.32	162.9
Male	387	900	27.1	29.5	23.6	15.6	*4.1	3.84	226.9
Female	424	851	45.4	32.1	12.0	*8.9	—	2.78	94.92
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	44.2	25.5	14.2	10.9	*5.1	2.03	94.86
Male	22	48	*50.7	—	—	—	—	3.01	236.8
Female	1,019	1,683	44.0	25.7	14.3	10.8	*5.0	2.00	90.77
Retired	868	1,528	28.6	22.0	13.3	13.9	21.8	1.94	239.8
Male	476	892	21.9	19.1	*12.8	16.2	29.4	2.27	326.5
Female	392	636	38.0	26.1	*13.9	*10.8	11.1	1.49	118.5
Other	78	142	*36.3	*23.9	—	—	*15.1	3.07	431.8
Male	48	92	*38.8	—	—	—	—	3.64	572.9
Female	30	50	31.5	—	—	—	—	2.01	171.6

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 16:
Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total population	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	50.0	29.7	10.5	9.1
Male	1,013	1,969	38.0	35.2	13.8	12.2
Female	1,006	1,555	65.1	22.7	*6.3	*5.2
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	48.5	29.9	10.1	11.1
Male	648	1,277	33.6	31.9	13.7	20.1
Female	1,198	2,048	57.8	28.7	7.8	5.6
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	32.0	30.6	16.1	20.0
Male	1,572	2,830	29.4	29.7	17.8	22.0
Female	226	397	50.5	36.9	—	—
Looking for work	239	384	34.5	33.0	*10.4	*19.2
Male	137	223	*27.2	*30.2	—	*27.7
Female	102	160	*44.7	*37.0	—	—
Student	811	1,751	39.0	36.6	9.4	14.6
Male	387	900	32.2	34.8	*10.2	22.6
Female	424	851	46.2	38.6	*8.6	*6.2
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	73.9	20.3	*3.9	*1.7
Male	22	48	71.7	—	—	—
Female	1,019	1,683	73.9	20.5	*3.7	*1.6
Retired	868	1,528	75.3	14.9	*3.0	*5.9
Male	476	892	64.0	21.5	*4.5	*8.8
Female	392	636	91.1	*5.6	—	—
Other	78	142	61.1	23.0	—	—
Male	48	92	56.1	—	—	—
Female	30	50	70.6	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 17:

Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Total population	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	*2.6	2.0
Married	6,292	11,832	6.0	15.4	78.6	46.7	39.7	7.1	6.6	3.4
Male	3,011	5,962	3.2	13.3	83.5	38.2	41.1	10.2	10.5	4.8
Female	3,281	5,870	8.9	17.6	73.5	56.5	38.0	3.5	2.1	1.8
Separated	452	597	—	19.9	76.3	45.2	34.6	*8.2	12.0	5.2
Male	180	255	—	*18.6	80.2	*34.4	*34.1	—	*22.0	8.4
Female	272	342	—	*20.9	73.5	54.0	*35.0	—	—	2.6
Divorced	667	921	*4.8	17.2	78.0	48.2	34.1	8.1	9.6	4.4
Male	261	370	—	*11.9	85.0	*30.9	42.9	*12.3	*13.9	6.6
Female	406	551	*5.9	20.8	73.3	61.7	27.3	—	*6.2	2.6
Widowed	1,011	1,235	16.2	34.5	49.3	60.6	33.3	2.0	4.1	2.1
Male	162	206	—	*33.9	61.5	*44.1	*36.9	—	—	5.0
Female	849	1,029	18.5	34.6	46.9	64.9	32.4	—	—	1.4
Never married	3,206	5,693	6.5	11.5	82.0	45.4	36.9	8.9	8.8	4.3
Male	1,674	3,122	5.0	9.1	85.9	38.6	36.5	11.8	13.0	5.8
Female	1,532	2,571	8.2	14.5	77.3	54.5	37.3	*5.0	*3.1	2.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 18:**
Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Total population	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
Married	4,774	9,294	25.8	24.4	18.0	19.3	12.0	2.37	203.3
Male	2,442	4,981	16.8	22.4	19.2	23.8	17.2	2.71	286.4
Female	2,332	4,314	36.2	26.6	16.5	14.0	5.9	1.99	107.3
Separated	356	455	24.8	26.4	*14.5	*16.8	*16.6	3.06	316.4
Male	152	204	*13.7	*17.8	*18.7	*21.6	*27.4	3.77	508.2
Female	204	251	*33.8	*33.4	*11.1	*12.8	—	2.48	159.7
Divorced	534	718	30.1	16.6	16.7	23.6	*12.6	3.09	290.8
Male	214	315	*17.4	*12.5	*15.4	34.5	*20.0	3.84	455.3
Female	320	404	40.0	*19.7	*17.7	*15.2	*6.9	2.49	161.5
Widowed	486	609	37.7	26.4	*10.0	*9.5	*14.4	1.66	145.3
Male	98	127	*21.8	*20.6	—	—	*27.6	2.25	361.8
Female	388	482	41.9	27.9	*10.1	*7.8	*11.0	1.51	90.66
Never married	2,605	4,667	24.0	25.8	21.7	21.6	6.8	3.66	285.2
Male	1,424	2,680	16.7	21.8	23.5	28.8	9.0	4.24	391.7
Female	1,181	1,987	33.9	31.3	19.3	11.7	*3.8	2.87	142.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 19:

Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total population	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
Married	4,774	9,294	55.7	26.6	8.9	7.4
Male	2,442	4,981	42.8	31.0	13.0	11.7
Female	2,332	4,314	70.6	21.5	4.2	*2.4
Separated	356	455	41.7	31.3	*11.6	*13.0
Male	152	204	24.2	*31.1	*15.8	*24.8
Female	204	251	56.0	*31.4	—	—
Divorced	534	718	46.8	27.6	*10.3	*14.7
Male	214	315	29.5	34.3	*12.1	*23.3
Female	320	404	60.2	*22.5	*8.8	*8.0
Widowed	486	609	82.3	*8.4	*4.6	—
Male	98	127	59.6	—	—	—
Female	388	482	88.3	*6.5	—	—
Never married	2,605	4,667	33.4	33.4	12.3	20.3
Male	1,424	2,680	25.6	30.3	14.5	29.0
Female	1,181	1,987	44.0	37.4	9.4	8.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 20:

Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Total population	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
English	9,261	14,145	5.3	15.6	79.1	45.9	38.5	7.9	7.7	3.8
Male	4,212	6,887	3.4	12.8	83.8	36.6	40.0	11.3	12.1	5.3
Female	5,049	7,257	7.2	18.2	74.6	55.8	36.9	4.3	3.0	2.2
French	1,966	4,946	9.4	14.1	76.5	46.8	39.5	7.1	6.6	3.8
Male	872	2,389	*4.3	11.5	84.2	38.4	40.2	10.4	11.1	5.6
Female	1,094	2,557	14.1	16.5	69.4	56.3	38.7	*3.3	*1.6	1.7
Other	323	1,019	11.9	22.0	66.1	55.8	31.2	—	*9.2	3.2
Male	173	581	*5.6	12.2	82.2	48.9	33.4	*5.4	*12.3	4.0
Female	150	438	20.3	35.1	44.7	72.7	25.7	—	—	1.1

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 21:

Frequency of alcohol consumption among current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking frequency (%)					Usual no. of drinks per occasion	Estimated no. of drinks in year preceding survey
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week		
Total population	8,760	15,752	25.9	24.6	18.6	19.7	10.7	2.78	232.7
Male	4,332	8,310	16.8	21.7	20.3	25.6	15.1	3.27	333.4
Female	4,428	7,441	36.1	27.8	16.7	13.0	5.8	2.24	120.4
English	7,028	11,186	25.6	24.6	19.1	19.5	11.0	2.85	230.0
Male	3,436	5,773	15.4	22.1	21.3	25.4	15.6	3.35	327.2
Female	3,592	5,413	36.5	27.3	16.7	13.3	6.1	2.33	126.7
French	1,488	3,785	26.5	24.7	19.4	20.1	9.2	2.68	246.1
Male	740	2,011	19.1	20.4	20.4	26.7	13.4	3.26	372.2
Female	748	1,775	35.0	29.5	18.3	12.7	*4.4	2.03	103.3
Other	193	673	29.9	24.9	8.1	21.1	15.7	2.13	209.6
Male	133	478	24.4	23.7	*9.4	25.2	17.0	2.39	251.5
Female	60	195	43.4	*28.0	—	—	—	1.48	107.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 22:

Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total population	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
English	7,028	11,186	47.8	28.7	10.4	12.1
Male	3,436	5,773	34.7	31.1	14.0	19.0
Female	3,592	5,413	61.8	26.2	6.7	4.8
French	1,488	3,785	52.0	27.3	8.8	11.7
Male	740	2,011	37.0	30.5	13.1	19.2
Female	748	1,775	69.1	23.7	*4.0	*3.2
Other	193	673	64.1	24.1	*7.9	—
Male	133	478	58.2	28.2	*10.4	—
Female	60	195	78.6	*14.2	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 23:
Smoking status, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Smoking status (%)		
			Lifetime non-smoker	Former smoker	Current smoker
Canada	11,634	20,285	42.3	25.8	31.9
Male	5,291	9,920	36.5	30.1	33.4
Female	6,343	10,365	47.8	21.6	30.5
Nfld.	961	427	37.6	26.6	35.8
Male	446	211	28.0	34.0	38.0
Female	515	216	47.1	19.4	33.6
P.E.I.	828	98	40.8	24.4	34.8
Male	412	48	29.6	30.9	39.5
Female	416	50	51.6	18.1	30.3
N.S.	1,259	690	38.3	29.6	32.1
Male	557	336	33.0	33.3	33.8
Female	702	354	43.4	26.0	30.6
N.B.	812	552	42.4	26.4	31.2
Male	386	269	32.1	28.3	39.6
Female	426	283	52.3	24.5	23.1
Que.	1,808	5,237	37.3	27.8	34.9
Male	789	2,541	30.4	33.3	36.3
Female	1,019	2,697	43.8	22.6	33.6
Ont.	1,974	7,486	46.6	22.0	31.4
Male	899	3,653	41.5	25.5	33.0
Female	1,075	3,832	51.4	18.7	29.9
Man.	947	830	41.3	29.8	28.9
Male	418	406	36.4	34.3	29.3
Female	529	425	45.9	25.5	28.5
Sask.	921	748	43.8	26.3	29.9
Male	412	370	34.3	31.5	34.2
Female	509	378	53.1	21.2	25.7
Alta.	992	1,826	41.1	26.9	32.0
Male	460	911	36.0	31.0	33.0
Female	532	916	46.2	22.9	30.9
B.C.	1,132	2,390	42.5	29.5	28.0
Male	512	1,174	39.0	33.9	27.1
Female	620	1,215	45.8	25.2	28.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 24:
Number of cigarettes smoked per day by current smokers, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of cigarettes smoked per day (%)		
			1-10	11-25	26+
Canada	3,838	6,476	25.3	62.3	9.4
Male	1,855	3,311	21.2	63.6	13.0
Female	1,983	3,166	29.7	60.8	5.7
Nfld.	342	153	29.3	56.8	12.8
Male	170	80	20.2	62.7	*15.7
Female	172	73	39.3	50.1	*9.5
P.E.I.	302	34	23.2	66.4	*7.3
Male	170	19	21.4	66.7	*10.5
Female	132	15	25.4	66.2	3.2
N.S.	413	222	25.2	62.6	*9.8
Male	194	114	19.1	66.2	*13.0
Female	219	108	31.5	58.9	*6.4
N.B.	255	172	16.6	70.2	*8.4
Male	149	107	*9.6	76.7	*9.8
Female	106	65	*27.8	59.6	—
Que.	658	1,828	23.1	58.9	13.4
Male	288	923	17.8	61.9	17.6
Female	370	906	28.4	55.9	*9.1
Ont.	631	2,351	28.3	62.7	7.5
Male	308	1,205	26.3	62.4	10.5
Female	323	1,146	30.5	63.0	*4.4
Man.	286	240	22.4	64.4	*5.4
Male	129	119	21.7	66.5	—
Female	157	121	23.1	62.3	—
Sask.	283	224	22.5	69.7	*3.4
Male	140	127	*19.6	73.1	—
Female	143	97	26.3	65.2	—
Alta.	329	584	26.0	67.8	*4.9
Male	155	300	24.5	65.7	*8.8
Female	174	283	27.7	70.1	—
B.C.	339	669	23.9	60.7	11.8
Male	152	318	*13.7	61.6	*20.0
Female	187	352	33.1	59.8	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 25:
Smoking status, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Smoking status (%)		
			Lifetime non-smoker	Former smoker	Current smoker
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	42.3	25.8	31.9
Male	5,291	9,920	36.5	30.1	33.4
Female	6,343	10,365	47.8	21.6	30.5
15-19	838	1,866	65.2	12.2	22.6
Male	412	956	66.0	12.3	21.7
Female	426	910	64.5	12.0	23.5
20-24	1,049	2,034	47.5	15.1	37.4
Male	489	1,027	50.7	12.2	37.1
Female	560	1,007	44.2	18.0	37.7
25-34	3,059	4,670	41.4	21.8	36.8
Male	1,396	2,318	40.8	21.8	37.5
Female	1,663	2,352	42.1	21.8	36.2
35-44	2,352	3,962	34.4	30.2	35.5
Male	1,152	1,971	28.3	34.1	37.5
Female	1,200	1,991	40.3	26.2	33.5
45-54	1,371	2,701	36.2	29.1	34.7
Male	673	1,349	29.2	34.6	36.2
Female	698	1,352	43.2	23.6	33.2
55-64	1,207	2,334	37.1	31.9	31.0
Male	529	1,137	25.7	41.3	33.1
Female	678	1,197	48.0	23.0	29.1
65+	1,758	2,718	46.2	35.1	18.7
Male	640	1,162	24.2	54.2	21.6
Female	1,118	1,557	62.6	20.8	16.6

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 26:
Number of cigarettes smoked per day by current smokers, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of cigarettes smoked per day (%)		
			1-10	11-25	26+
Total 15+	3,838	6,476	25.3	62.3	9.4
Male	1,855	3,311	21.2	63.6	13.0
Female	1,983	3,166	29.7	60.8	5.7
15-19	234	422	48.6	46.1	—
Male	109	208	*40.5	56.1	—
Female	125	214	56.5	*36.3	—
20-24	423	760	28.0	64.9	*5.7
Male	205	380	*22.8	66.4	*8.3
Female	218	380	33.3	63.4	—
25-34	1,183	1,719	24.4	66.3	6.6
Male	553	868	21.1	69.0	*8.1
Female	630	851	27.8	63.5	*5.1
35-44	831	1,406	19.5	65.1	*12.9
Male	417	739	14.8	64.6	*18.2
Female	414	666	24.6	65.6	6.9
45-54	485	936	20.1	58.7	17.1
Male	256	488	*18.0	57.9	22.7
Female	229	448	22.4	59.6	*11.0
55-64	356	724	24.4	64.0	*9.2
Male	166	376	*21.1	62.5	*14.2
Female	190	348	27.9	65.7	—
65+	326	508	32.6	54.4	*8.1
Male	149	251	*28.2	57.1	*10.7
Female	177	258	36.9	51.7	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 27:
Smoking status, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Smoking status (%)		
			Lifetime non-smoker	Former smoker	Current smoker
Total population	11,634	20,285	42.3	25.8	31.9
Male	5,291	9,920	36.5	30.1	33.4
Female	6,343	10,365	47.8	21.6	30.5
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	38.7	25.6	35.7
Male	1,962	3,349	29.6	31.9	38.5
Female	2,179	3,395	47.7	19.3	33.0
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	39.4	24.9	35.7
Male	1,350	2,597	35.7	29.1	35.2
Female	1,766	3,071	42.5	21.4	36.0
Some post-secondary non-university degree	2,693	4,764	44.4	25.9	29.6
Male	1,137	2,271	41.7	26.6	31.6
Female	1,556	2,494	46.9	25.3	27.8
University degree	1,577	2,865	50.9	28.7	20.3
Male	804	1,606	44.7	33.5	21.7
Female	773	1,259	58.8	22.6	18.6

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 28:
Number of cigarettes smoked per day by current smokers, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of cigarettes smoked per day (%)		
			1-10	11-25	26+
Total population	3,838	6,476	25.3	62.3	9.4
Male	1,855	3,311	21.2	63.6	13.0
Female	1,983	3,166	29.7	60.8	5.7
Less than secondary	1,542	2,408	24.1	63.2	10.6
Male	801	1,290	20.3	62.7	15.0
Female	741	1,119	28.4	63.7	*5.5
Secondary completed	1,126	2,021	20.5	68.0	8.6
Male	493	914	15.8	71.6	11.1
Female	633	1,107	24.4	64.9	*6.6
Some post-secondary non-university degree	818	1,411	31.0	58.7	7.2
Male	376	718	25.8	63.4	*9.3
Female	442	693	36.4	53.9	*4.9
University degree	335	583	35.2	46.7	*11.8
Male	176	349	31.1	45.5	*16.8
Female	159	234	41.3	48.6	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 29:**
Smoking status, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Smoking status (%)		
			Lifetime non-smoker	Former smoker	Current smoke
Total population	11,634	20,285	42.3	25.8	31.9
Male	5,291	9,920	36.5	30.1	33.4
Female	6,343	10,365	47.8	21.6	30.5
<\$10,000	861	951	43.3	20.5	36.2
Male	255	325	31.2	*24.5	44.3
Female	606	626	49.6	18.4	32.0
\$10,000–\$29,999	3,712	5,250	35.2	26.8	38.1
Male	1,583	2,351	28.1	32.6	39.4
Female	2,129	2,899	40.9	22.0	37.1
\$30,000–\$39,999	1,893	3,220	38.0	25.3	36.7
Male	936	1,655	33.8	28.3	38.0
Female	957	1,564	42.6	22.1	35.3
\$40,000–\$59,999	2,134	4,380	41.5	28.9	29.7
Male	1,142	2,355	36.6	32.3	31.0
Female	992	2,025	47.1	24.8	28.1
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	47.1	28.1	24.8
Male	782	1,972	43.7	31.1	25.2
Female	613	1,337	52.1	23.6	24.3

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 30:**
Number of cigarettes smoked per day by current smokers, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of cigarettes smoked per day (%)		
			1–10	11–25	26+
Total population	3,838	6,476	25.3	62.3	9.4
Male	1,855	3,311	21.2	63.6	13.0
Female	1,983	3,166	29.7	60.8	5.7
<\$10,000	307	344	29.5	58.4	*8.6
Male	113	144	*27.2	58.1	—
Female	194	200	*31.1	58.6	—
\$10,000–\$29,999	1,426	2,000	26.1	62.4	8.3
Male	644	926	23.7	63.3	*10.4
Female	782	1,074	28.2	61.6	*6.5
\$30,000–\$39,999	677	1,181	24.3	63.0	10.8
Male	355	629	19.1	61.9	17.2
Female	322	552	30.3	64.3	*3.5
\$40,000–\$59,999	651	1,299	19.5	66.3	10.0
Male	361	731	17.6	66.4	*13.5
Female	290	569	21.9	66.2	*5.4
\$60,000+	353	821	26.4	63.7	*8.1
Male	203	496	21.0	67.5	*10.6
Female	150	325	34.8	57.8	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 31:

Smoking status, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Smoking status (%)		
			Lifetime non-smoker	Former smoker	Current smoker
Total population	11,634	20,285	42.3	25.8	31.9
Male	5,291	9,920	36.5	30.1	33.4
Female	6,343	10,365	47.8	21.6	30.5
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	42.7	28.5	28.9
Male	1,128	2,170	39.0	34.3	26.8
Female	1,177	1,821	47.0	21.6	31.4
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	38.0	25.2	36.8
Male	770	1,510	31.4	28.9	39.7
Female	1,486	2,534	42.0	23.0	35.0
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	33.2	26.0	40.8
Male	1,831	3,192	32.3	27.7	40.0
Female	314	555	38.4	*16.1	45.5
Looking for work	311	470	40.8	*16.9	42.2
Male	178	279	36.1	*20.3	43.5
Female	133	191	47.7	—	40.3
Student	1,059	2,265	65.0	12.3	22.6
Male	497	1,133	67.9	10.9	21.2
Female	562	1,133	62.1	13.8	24.1
Retired	1,570	2,587	40.4	35.6	24.0
Male	723	1,313	22.9	51.0	26.1
Female	847	1,273	58.3	19.8	21.9
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	43.5	26.3	30.2
Male	41	59	—	15.0	*58.1
Female	1,725	2,672	43.8	26.6	29.6
Other	118	204	*28.1	*31.0	40.8
Male	76	135	*26.5	*29.5	*44.0
Female	42	69	*31.3	*34.1	*34.6

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 32:**
Number of cigarettes smoked per day by current smokers, by employment status and sex, age 15+,
Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of cigarettes smoked per day (%)		
			1-10	11-25	26+
Total population	3,838	6,476	25.3	62.3	9.4
Male	1,855	3,311	21.2	63.6	13.0
Female	1,983	3,166	29.7	60.8	5.7
Manager/professional	664	1,152	28.5	58.6	*8.4
Male	313	580	23.9	60.2	*13.2
Female	351	571	33.1	56.9	—
Other white collar	895	1,487	20.6	68.1	9.3
Male	311	600	17.1	67.7	*14.2
Female	584	887	23.0	68.4	*6.0
Blue collar	894	1,530	18.5	67.9	12.2
Male	758	1,277	15.6	69.5	13.3
Female	136	253	33.4	59.7	—
Looking for work	160	198	*22.6	61.2	—
Male	96	121	—	65.4	—
Female	64	77	*33.4	54.6	—
Student	271	513	49.8	41.9	—
Male	114	240	48.4	45.4	—
Female	157	273	51.0	38.9	—
Retired	368	621	29.3	56.2	*10.1
Male	191	343	27.4	55.2	*13.1
Female	177	278	31.7	57.5	—
Keeping house	512	825	24.4	65.9	*6.9
Male	19	34	—	*68.5	—
Female	493	791	24.9	65.8	*6.4
Other	53	83	*27.7	56.6	—
Male	38	59	*32.9	*56.0	—
Female	15	24	—	*58.2	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 33:
Smoking status, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Smoking status (%)		
			Lifetime non-smoker	Former smoker	Current smoker
Total population	11,550	20,110	42.1	25.9	32.1
Male	5,257	9,858	36.5	30.1	33.4
Female	6,293	10,252	47.4	21.8	30.8
English	9,261	14,145	42.7	25.9	31.4
Male	4,212	6,887	38.0	30.1	31.9
Female	5,049	7,257	47.0	22.0	30.9
French	1,966	4,946	37.0	28.1	35.0
Male	872	2,389	30.7	32.6	36.6
Female	1,094	2,557	42.8	23.8	33.4
Other	323	1,019	58.8	14.2	27.0
Male	173	581	42.1	20.3	37.6
Female	150	438	81.0	*6.1	*12.8

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 34:
Number of cigarettes smoked per day by current smokers, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of cigarettes smoked per day (%)		
			1-10	11-25	26+
Total population	3,825	6,447	25.4	62.3	9.3
Male	1,846	3,290	21.3	63.7	12.8
Female	1,979	3,157	29.7	60.8	5.7
English	3,042	4,443	25.6	64.1	7.8
Male	1,466	2,197	21.6	65.3	11.3
Female	1,576	2,246	29.4	63.0	*4.4
French	705	1,729	23.3	60.1	12.5
Male	320	875	18.1	62.6	16.3
Female	385	854	28.6	57.5	*8.5
Other	78	275	36.9	47.1	*13.6
Male	60	219	*31.4	53.1	*13.6
Female	18	56	*58.5	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 35:
Smoking quit rate, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Quit rate ^a (%)
Total 15+	45
Male	48
Female	42
15-19	35
Male	36
Female	34
20-24	29
Male	25
Female	32
25-34	37
Male	37
Female	38
35-44	46
Male	48
Female	44
45-54	46
Male	49
Female	42
55-64	51
Male	56
Female	44
65+	65
Male	72
Female	56

^a "Quit rate" refers to the percentage of former smokers among those who have ever smoked.

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 36:
Type of drinker and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, by smoking status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Smoking status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Abstainers (%)		Current drinkers (%)	No. of drinks in 7 days prior to survey (%)				Average no. of drinks per week
			Lifetime abstainers	Former drinkers		0	1-7	8-13	14+	
Total population	11,634	20,285	6.6	15.7	77.7	46.8	38.2	7.5	7.5	3.7
Male	5,291	9,920	3.7	12.5	83.8	38.0	39.5	10.7	11.8	5.3
Female	6,343	10,365	9.4	18.8	71.8	56.7	36.8	3.9	2.6	2.0
Current smoker	3,838	6,476	3.5	13.6	82.9	41.7	38.2	8.8	11.3	5.2
Male	1,855	3,311	2.0	11.8	86.2	32.8	37.8	12.0	17.4	7.3
Female	1,983	3,166	5.0	15.5	79.4	51.8	38.5	5.2	4.4	2.7
Former smoker	3,106	5,229	3.3	13.4	83.3	43.7	39.4	9.1	7.8	3.9
Male	1,654	2,987	2.4	12.2	85.5	34.7	40.6	12.9	11.8	5.3
Female	1,452	2,242	4.6	15.1	80.3	56.5	37.7	3.6	2.2	1.9
Lifetime non-smoker	4,690	8,579	11.1	18.6	70.3	53.6	37.4	5.2	3.8	2.4
Male	1,782	3,622	6.5	13.3	80.2	46.0	40.2	7.5	6.3	3.3
Female	2,908	4,957	14.4	22.5	63.0	60.7	34.8	3.1	1.4	1.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 37:

Number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by smoking status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Smoking status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	No. of times had 5+ drinks (%)			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total population	8,760	15,752	49.3	28.1	9.9	11.5
Male	4,332	8,310	36.6	30.7	13.5	18.0
Female	4,428	7,441	63.6	25.1	5.9	4.3
Current smoker	3,154	5,367	36.3	32.3	12.3	18.2
Male	1,580	2,852	24.1	31.9	15.5	27.2
Female	1,574	2,515	50.2	32.7	8.7	8.1
Former smoker	2,472	4,354	51.4	27.7	10.2	9.4
Male	1,361	2,553	42.0	29.3	13.1	14.3
Female	1,111	1,801	64.8	25.4	6.2	2.5
Lifetime non-smoker	3,134	6,030	59.4	24.6	7.5	7.1
Male	1,391	2,905	44.0	30.8	11.8	12.1
Female	1,743	3,125	73.7	18.9	3.4	2.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 38:

Percentage of population that used selected illicit drugs in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Marijuana or hashish		Cocaine or crack		LSD, speed or heroin	
			Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	23.2	6.5	3.5	1.4	4.1	*0.4
Male	5,291	9,920	28.9	8.9	4.5	2.0	5.1	*0.5
Female	6,343	10,365	17.7	4.1	2.7	*0.8	3.1	—
15-19	838	1,866	23.2	12.3	*2.5	*1.9	*4.5	*2.1
Male	412	956	23.1	14.3	—	—	*4.9	—
Female	426	910	23.3	*10.3	—	—	*4.2	—
20-24	1,049	2,034	43.1	18.4	7.0	*3.1	*4.7	—
Male	489	1,027	49.4	23.7	*8.2	*4.0	*6.0	—
Female	560	1,007	36.7	13.0	*5.8	—	*3.3	—
25-34	3,059	4,670	43.0	10.5	8.6	3.3	7.5	—
Male	1,396	2,318	51.7	15.2	10.6	*4.9	8.6	—
Female	1,663	2,352	34.4	6.0	6.7	*1.8	6.5	—
35-44	2,352	3,962	25.8	4.5	*2.3	—	5.9	—
Male	1,152	1,971	33.6	6.2	*3.2	—	7.7	—
Female	1,200	1,991	18.2	*2.8	*1.5	—	4.1	—
45-54	1,371	2,701	10.0	*1.2	—	—	*1.5	—
Male	673	1,349	16.5	—	—	—	*2.6	—
Female	698	1,352	*3.5	—	—	—	—	—
55-64	1,207	2,334	*2.4	—	—	—	—	—
Male	529	1,137	*3.3	—	—	—	—	—
Female	678	1,197	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1,758	2,718	*1.2	—	—	—	—	—
Male	640	1,162	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1,118	1,557	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 39:

Percentage of population that used selected illicit drugs in the year preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Marijuana or hashish		Cocaine or crack		LSD, speed or heroin	
			Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
Canada	11,634	20,285	23.2	6.5	3.5	1.4	4.1	*0.4
Male	5,291	9,920	28.9	8.9	4.5	2.0	5.1	*0.5
Female	6,343	10,365	17.7	4.1	2.7	*0.8	3.1	—
Nfld.	961	427	18.1	4.5	—	—	*1.2	—
Male	446	211	25.1	*6.8	—	—	*2.2	—
Female	515	216	11.3	*2.3	—	—	—	—
P.E.I.	828	98	17.9	4.7	—	—	*2.4	—
Male	412	48	24.6	*7.2	—	—	*3.3	—
Female	416	50	11.4	—	—	—	—	—
N.S.	1,259	690	22.8	7.4	*1.4	—	*1.8	—
Male	557	336	27.9	9.8	*2.1	—	*2.9	—
Female	702	354	17.9	5.1	—	—	—	—
N.B.	812	552	21.1	5.7	1.8	—	*4.5	—
Male	386	269	26.7	*7.6	—	—	*6.6	—
Female	426	283	15.7	*3.9	—	—	*2.5	—
Que.	1,808	5,237	21.3	6.5	4.1	2.0	3.2	—
Male	789	2,541	27.4	9.2	5.1	*2.9	*3.7	—
Female	1,019	2,697	15.6	*3.8	*3.0	*1.1	*2.6	—
Ont.	1,974	7,486	21.7	5.9	2.8	*1.1	4.1	—
Male	899	3,653	26.9	8.2	*3.6	*1.9	5.0	—
Female	1,075	3,832	16.9	*3.8	*2.0	—	*3.3	—
Man.	947	830	22.3	4.8	*1.9	—	3.8	—
Male	418	406	29.0	*7.1	*2.8	—	*5.4	—
Female	529	425	15.9	*2.5	—	—	*2.2	—
Sask.	921	748	21.2	4.7	*2.5	—	*3.6	—
Male	412	370	28.3	*7.5	*4.0	—	*5.8	—
Female	509	378	14.2	—	—	—	—	—
Alta.	992	1,826	27.8	6.5	3.7	*1.1	5.5	—
Male	460	911	34.9	9.8	*4.8	—	*7.1	—
Female	532	916	20.7	*3.3	*2.5	—	*3.9	—
B.C.	1,132	2,390	30.7	9.6	7.2	*2.1	6.1	—
Male	512	1,174	35.5	11.5	8.0	*1.9	*7.0	—
Female	620	1,215	26.1	7.8	*6.5	*2.4	*5.2	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 40:

Percentage of population that used selected illicit drugs in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Marijuana or hashish		Cocaine or crack		LSD, speed or heroin	
			Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	11,634	20,285	23.2	6.5	3.5	1.4	4.1	*0.4
Male	5,291	9,920	28.9	8.9	4.5	2.0	5.1	*0.5
Female	6,343	10,365	17.7	4.1	2.7	*0.8	3.1	—
Married	6,292	11,832	17.4	2.6	1.8	*0.4	2.8	—
Male	3,011	5,962	21.3	3.9	2.1	*0.6	3.3	—
Female	3,281	5,870	13.5	*1.4	*1.4	—	2.4	—
Separated	452	597	34.5	*9.1	*5.5	—	*9.3	—
Male	180	255	44.5	—	—	—	*11.5	—
Female	272	342	*27.0	—	—	—	—	—
Divorced	667	921	29.4	*7.6	*6.1	—	*6.8	—
Male	261	370	40.6	*11.4	*8.7	—	*10.3	—
Female	406	551	21.9	*5.1	—	—	—	—
Widowed	1,011	1,235	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	162	206	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	849	1,029	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never married	3,206	5,693	37.5	15.4	7.4	3.6	6.4	*1.3
Male	1,674	3,122	42.3	18.8	8.7	4.7	7.6	*1.5
Female	1,532	2,571	31.7	11.2	5.9	*2.2	4.9	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 41:
Frequency of marijuana/hashish consumption in the year preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Frequency of consumption (%)		
			Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	1 or more times per week
Canada	733	1,313	48.6	24.8	22.4
Male	483	887	43.2	25.5	25.6
Female	250	426	60.0	*23.3	*15.8
Nfld.	46	19	*35.9	—	*24.2
Male	34	14	*26.3	—	*24.7
Female	12	5	*63.5	—	—
P.E.I.	42	5	*65.8	—	*17.3
Male	32	3	*57.4	—	*22.9
Female	10	1	91.9	—	-
N.S.	88	51	57.5	*26.1	*12.1
Male	56	33	48.0	*29.6	*16.9
Female	32	18	75.1	—	—
N.B.	47	31	67.0	—	—
Male	32	20	*57.7	—	—
Female	15	11	84.1	—	-
Que.	113	338	49.3	29.2	*20.8
Male	74	235	45.2	*31.9	*21.9
Female	39	103	*58.8	*23.1	—
Ont.	121	445	49.4	*22.1	*21.5
Male	78	300	43.8	*21.2	*24.6
Female	43	145	61.0	*23.9	—
Man.	53	40	49.4	*28.9	*19.3
Male	34	29	*49.5	—	*26.5
Female	19	11	*49.1	*50.9	-
Sask.	44	35	59.2	—	*26.4
Male	29	28	*55.9	—	*29.0
Female	15	8	*71.0	—	—
Alta.	70	119	*31.5	*36.7	*26.2
Male	48	90	*29.1	*39.7	*27.1
Female	22	30	—	—	—
B.C.	109	230	49.5	*20.8	*28.3
Male	66	135	*41.6	*20.2	*35.8
Female	43	94	60.7	*21.7	—

- Data not available

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 42:**Rates of marijuana or hashish use, age 18+, Canada, 1980, 1985 and 1989**

Year	Ever used (%)	Used in year preceding survey (%)
1980 ^a	20	12
1985 ^b	-	5
1989 ^c	23	6

- Data not available

SOURCES:^a Gallup Omnibus Study (Canadian Gallup Poll Ltd. 1980)^b Canada's Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988)^c HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989**Table 43:****Percentage of population that used selected licit drugs in the month preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989**

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Sleeping pills	Tranquillizers (e.g., valium)	Diet pills or stimulants	Anti-depressants	Codeine, demerol, morphine
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	3.6	3.1	0.9	2.0	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	1.8	*0.5	1.5	4.3
Female	6,343	10,365	4.6	4.3	*1.2	2.4	5.7
15-19	838	1,866	—	—	—	—	*4.9
Male	412	956	—	—	—	—	*4.5
Female	426	910	—	—	—	—	*5.4
20-24	1,049	2,034	—	*1.4	—	—	6.2
Male	489	1,027	—	—	—	—	*6.0
Female	560	1,007	—	—	—	—	*6.4
25-34	3,059	4,670	*1.3	*1.4	*0.8	*1.3	5.6
Male	1,396	2,318	—	—	—	—	5.3
Female	1,663	2,352	*1.6	*1.8	—	*1.7	5.9
35-44	2,352	3,962	*2.4	*2.6	*1.4	*2.1	5.8
Male	1,152	1,971	*1.9	*1.7	—	*2.1	*4.5
Female	1,200	1,991	*2.9	*3.5	*2.4	*2.1	7.1
45-54	1,371	2,701	4.5	5.0	—	*2.8	*4.1
Male	673	1,349	—	*2.9	—	—	*3.6
Female	698	1,352	*7.1	*7.1	—	*3.8	*4.7
55-64	1,207	2,334	*4.6	6.0	—	*3.3	*3.7
Male	529	1,137	*3.0	—	—	—	—
Female	678	1,197	*6.2	9.6	—	*4.8	*5.2
65+	1,758	2,718	11.1	5.4	—	*2.9	*4.0
Male	640	1,162	10.3	*3.5	—	*2.6	*3.3
Female	1,118	1,557	11.6	*6.8	—	*3.2	*4.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 44:

Percentage of population that used selected licit drugs in the month preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Sleeping pills	Tranquillizers (e.g., valium)	Diet pills or stimulants	Anti-depressants	Codeine, demerol, morphine
Canada	11,634	20,285	3.6	3.1	0.9	2.0	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	1.8	*0.5	1.5	4.3
Female	6,343	10,365	4.6	4.3	1.2	2.4	5.7
Nfld.	961	427	*2.1	*1.6	—	*1.4	4.4
Male	446	211	—	—	—	—	*4.2
Female	515	216	*2.2	*2.5	—	—	*4.6
P.E.I.	828	98	*1.9	*2.2	—	—	*2.8
Male	412	48	—	—	—	—	*3.3
Female	416	50	—	—	—	—	—
N.S.	1,259	690	*2.3	3.4	—	*2.9	4.9
Male	557	336	—	*3.6	—	—	*4.2
Female	702	354	*2.7	*3.2	—	*4.2	*5.6
N.B.	812	552	*3.2	*3.9	—	—	*3.4
Male	386	269	—	—	—	—	*4.2
Female	426	283	*4.0	*5.8	—	—	*2.6
Que.	1,808	5,237	4.5	4.3	*0.6	2.2	*1.7
Male	789	2,541	*2.9	*2.5	—	*1.6	*1.6
Female	1,019	2,697	6.1	5.9	—	*2.8	*1.8
Ont.	1,974	7,486	3.4	3.3	*1.1	1.9	6.3
Male	899	3,653	*2.4	*1.6	—	*1.4	5.4
Female	1,075	3,832	4.3	4.9	*1.7	*2.3	7.2
Man.	947	830	*3.4	*2.3	—	*2.4	5.9
Male	418	406	*3.1	—	—	*2.4	*4.9
Female	529	425	*3.7	*3.4	—	*2.4	*6.8
Sask.	921	748	*1.9	*1.3	—	*1.8	5.2
Male	412	370	—	—	—	*2.6	*4.0
Female	509	378	*2.3	—	—	—	*6.4
Alta.	992	1,826	*3.4	*2.1	—	*1.6	7.6
Male	460	911	*3.5	—	—	—	*6.3
Female	532	916	*3.2	*3.0	—	*2.2	8.9
B.C.	1,132	2,390	3.7	*1.5	—	*1.8	6.7
Male	512	1,174	*2.0	—	—	—	*5.5
Female	620	1,215	*5.4	—	—	*2.4	7.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 45:

Percentage of population that used selected licit drugs in the month preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Sleeping pills	Tranquillizers (e.g., valium)	Diet pills or stimulants	Anti-depressants	Codeine, demerol, morphine
Total population	11,634	20,285	3.6	3.1	0.9	2.0	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	1.8	*0.5	1.5	4.3
Female	6,343	10,365	4.6	4.3	1.2	2.4	5.7
English	9,261	14,145	3.3	2.6	1.0	2.0	6.2
Male	4,212	6,887	2.4	*1.4	*0.6	*1.4	5.0
Female	5,049	7,257	4.2	3.8	*1.4	2.5	7.3
French	1,966	4,946	4.5	4.6	*0.7	2.3	2.2
Male	872	2,389	*3.2	*2.8	—	*2.0	*2.2
Female	1,094	2,557	5.7	6.3	—	*2.5	*2.2
Other	323	1,019	*3.3	*2.7	—	—	*3.1
Male	173	581	—	—	—	—	*5.0
Female	150	438	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 46:

Percentage of population that used selected licit drugs in the month preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Sleeping pills	Tranquillizers (e.g., valium)	Diet pills or stimulants	Anti-depressants	Codeine, demerol, morphine
Total population	11,634	20,285	3.6	3.1	0.9	2.0	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	1.8	*0.5	1.5	4.3
Female	6,343	10,365	4.6	4.3	1.2	2.4	5.7
<\$10,000	837	914	*8.9	*6.8	—	*4.2	*7.2
Male	249	314	—	—	—	—	—
Female	588	599	*9.3	*8.7	—	*5.0	*7.1
\$10,000–\$19,999	2,122	2,885	6.5	4.9	*0.9	*2.7	4.9
Male	832	1,194	*6.0	*2.4	—	*2.5	*4.3
Female	1,290	1,691	*6.8	6.6	—	*2.8	*5.2
\$20,000–\$39,999	3,495	5,601	3.5	4.1	*0.9	2.3	4.7
Male	1,687	2,812	*2.4	*2.7	—	*1.5	*3.8
Female	1,808	2,788	4.7	5.4	*1.2	*3.1	5.7
\$40,000+	3,546	7,711	2.0	1.7	*0.9	*1.3	6.0
Male	1,930	4,345	*1.6	*1.2	—	*1.2	5.3
Female	1,616	3,366	*2.4	*2.4	*1.5	*1.3	6.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 47:**
Percentage of population that used selected licit drugs in the month preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Sleeping pills	Tranquillizers (e.g., valium)	Diet pills or stimulants	Anti-depressants	Codeine, demerol, morphine
Total population	11,634	20,285	3.6	3.1	0.9	2.0	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	1.8	*0.5	1.5	4.3
Female	6,343	10,365	4.6	4.3	1.2	2.4	5.7
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	5.1	4.2	1.1	2.4	4.1
Male	1,962	3,349	3.3	*2.0	—	*1.5	3.2
Female	2,179	3,395	6.9	6.4	*1.5	3.2	5.0
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	3.6	3.1	—	1.8	5.6
Male	1,350	2,597	*2.9	*2.0	—	—	4.5
Female	1,766	3,071	4.2	4.0	—	*2.4	6.5
Some post-secondary							
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	2.5	2.3	—	*1.6	5.2
Male	1,137	2,271	*1.8	—	—	*1.7	4.7
Female	1,556	2,494	3.2	3.7	—	*1.6	5.6
University degree	1,577	2,865	*2.0	*2.0	—	*1.9	6.3
Male	804	1,606	—	*2.4	—	—	6.1
Female	773	1,259	*2.5	—	—	—	6.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

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Highlights

Part One: Reasons for Drinking

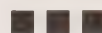


- Seven out of ten current drinkers (72%) 15 years of age and over claim that they consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to be sociable. To add to the enjoyment of meals is the next most common reason for consuming alcohol (46%), followed by drinking to relax (40%), to feel good (30%), to feel less shy or inhibited (13%) and to forget worries (10%).
- Regardless of age, drinking to be sociable is the most commonly reported reason for drinking.
- The percentage of current drinkers who report that they drink in order to enjoy meals tends to increase with age.
- The percentage of current drinkers who report drinking to feel good, to forget worries and to feel less inhibited tends to decrease with age.
- Women are slightly more likely than men to report consuming alcohol in order to be sociable or to add to the enjoyment of meals. On the other hand, a higher percentage of men than women report that they drink in order to relax, to feel good, to forget worries and to feel less shy or inhibited.
- Social reasons for drinking are most common in the Atlantic and Prairie provinces. Quebec is the only province where drinking to be sociable is not the most commonly cited drinking motivation.
- Drinking in order to add to the enjoyment of meals is the most commonly cited drinking motivation in Quebec.
- The majority of current drinkers from each educational group report that they consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to be sociable. The proportion of current drinkers reporting social reasons for drinking increases with level of educational attainment. The data also suggest that there is a positive relationship between education and drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals.
- There is very little difference between educational categories in terms of either drinking to relax or drinking to feel good. However, drinking in order to forget worries is more prevalent among current drinkers with low educational attainment.
- Regardless of income, the majority of current drinkers report that they consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to be sociable. However, as with education, the likelihood of reporting this type of drinking motivation increases slightly with income.
- As with education, the percentage of current drinkers reporting that they drink in order to add to the enjoyment of meals increases with income.
- There is very little difference between income groups in terms of drinking to relax, drinking to feel good and drinking to lessen inhibitions. However, drinking in order to forget worries is more prevalent among Canadians with low incomes.
- The majority of current drinkers from each occupational category report social reasons for consuming alcohol.
- Canadians in managerial or professional occupations are much more likely than those in other occupations to report drinking in order to add to the enjoyment of meals.
- Students, those looking for work and blue-collar workers are most likely to report that they consume alcohol in order to feel good. This type of drinking motivation is least common among homemakers, retired persons and those with white-collar jobs other than managers/professionals.
- Drinking to forget worries is most common among those who are looking for work, students and blue-collar workers.

- At least 70% of the current drinkers from each marital status category reported drinking to be sociable in the year preceding the survey.
- Drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals is not as common among single persons as it is among those who are married, separated/divorced or widowed. On the other hand, drinking in order to feel good is most prevalent among single persons, followed by those who are separated or divorced, married and widowed.
- A higher percentage of single persons and those who are separated or divorced report drinking to forget their worries than those who are either widowed or married.
- Anglophones (80%) are more likely to report drinking for social reasons than both Francophones (49%) and those who speak another language at home (67%).
- On the other hand, French-speaking drinkers (53%) and those who speak another language (53%) are more likely to report drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals than those who speak English (43%).
- Drinking to facilitate mood change (i.e., to forget worries, to feel good, to relax, to reduce inhibitions) is positively related to the frequency of alcohol use, to the number of drinks consumed during the week prior to the survey and to the prevalence and frequency of reported heavy drinking activity.
- The number of drinking motivations provided by current drinkers is positively related to consumption level. For example, those who drink less than once per month report, on average, 1.5 reasons for drinking, compared to 2.7 reasons for those who drink four times a week or more often.
- Drinking to escape reality or facilitate mood change is also positively related to alcohol-related problems. For example, 40% of the current drinkers who report that they drink in order to forget their worries experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, followed by 30% of those who drink to feel less shy or inhibited, 24% of those who drink to feel good,

19% of those who drink to relax, 12% of those who drink to be sociable and 10% of those who consume alcohol in order to add to the enjoyment of meals.

Part Two: Reasons for Abstaining



- One-third of abstainers (36%) report that they do not drink because they dislike the taste of alcohol. Because one does not like the effect alcohol has on self or others is the second most common reason for abstaining (30%), followed by health reasons (27%), other reasons (17%), because one was brought up not to drink (16%), because one thinks alcohol is a waste of money (12%), religious reasons (11%) and because one is an alcoholic or had an alcohol-related problem in the past (6%).
- Former drinkers are more likely than lifetime abstainers to report that they do not drink because of health reasons, because it is a waste of money and because they used to have a drinking problem.
- Women are more likely than men to report that they abstain from drinking because they dislike the taste of alcohol and because they were brought up not to drink. On the other hand, men are more likely to report that they do not drink because they had a drinking problem in the past, because they do not like the effect of alcohol, for health reasons and because it is a waste of money. Similar percentages of men and women report abstaining for religious reasons.
- The data suggest that abstaining for health reasons, because one was brought up not to drink and because it is a waste of money tends to increase with age. On the other hand, young people are most likely to report abstaining because they do not like the taste or do not like the effect of alcohol.
- The data suggest that abstaining for health reasons decreases as household income increases. On the other hand, those with high incomes are more likely than those with low incomes to report abstaining because of religious reasons or because they do not like the effect alcohol has on self or others.

- Retired abstainers are most likely to report health reasons and being brought up not to drink as reasons for not drinking.
- Students are most likely to report that they abstain from drinking because they do not like the effect alcohol has on self or others.
- Abstainers who speak a language other than French or English are most likely to report that they do not drink because of health or religious reasons.
- French-speaking abstainers are most likely to report that they do not drink because they do not like the taste of alcohol. Francophone and Anglophone abstainers are considerably more likely than those who speak another language to report abstaining because they do not like the effect of alcohol.

Part Three: Reasons for Using Marijuana



- Unlike alcohol, Canadians are more likely to report using marijuana to relax or to feel high than for social reasons. Two out of every three marijuana users (65.5%) report that they used the drug in order to relax. Six out of ten users (61.7%) report that they used marijuana in order to feel high. One out of two (51.0%) report that they used the drug in order to see what it was like. Slightly less than half (47.4%) report that they used marijuana in order to be sociable. Less than one-quarter (22.2%) report using marijuana in order to forget their worries, and 14.5% did so to feel less shy or inhibited.
- Men are slightly more likely than women to report that they used marijuana in order to relax or to forget their worries. However, women are more likely than men to report that they used marijuana to feel high, to see what it was like and to feel less shy or inhibited. An equal percentage of women and men report using marijuana to be sociable.
- Using marijuana to relax increases with age. On the other hand, using marijuana to see what it is like tends to decline with age. A clear relationship does not exist between age and other reasons for using marijuana.
- Using marijuana to feel high increases slightly with education. On the other hand, experimenting with marijuana and using it to forget worries tend to decrease with education.
- The majority of users in each occupational category except for those looking for work report that they use marijuana in order to get high.
- Interestingly, married users are more likely than those in other marital status categories to report that they use marijuana to feel high.
- Experimentation with marijuana is most prevalent among single (never married) individuals.
- Those who are separated are most likely to report using marijuana to relax, followed by married users, divorced users and those who have never married.
- English-speaking users are more likely than those who speak French to report each of the six reasons for using marijuana.
- Individuals who use marijuana to facilitate mood change use the drug more frequently than those who do not.

Introduction

Why do people use alcohol and marijuana? This question has been prominent in the minds of many alcohol and other drug researchers for over four decades. It is doubtful that the use of alcohol and marijuana would be so widespread if they did not have an intoxicating effect. Nevertheless, alcohol and marijuana are also consumed for reasons other than becoming inebriated. A complex network of rites and beliefs has developed around their use, the basic purpose of which is possibly to conceal and at the same time elevate their original physiological function.

What are the various dimensions of drinking and marijuana-using motivations? Do different people drink or use marijuana for different reasons? Do the motivations of those who become heavy or problem drinkers differ from those of the so-called “normal” drinking population? The purpose of this chapter is to address these questions using data from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey.

Part One: Reasons for Drinking

Definitions



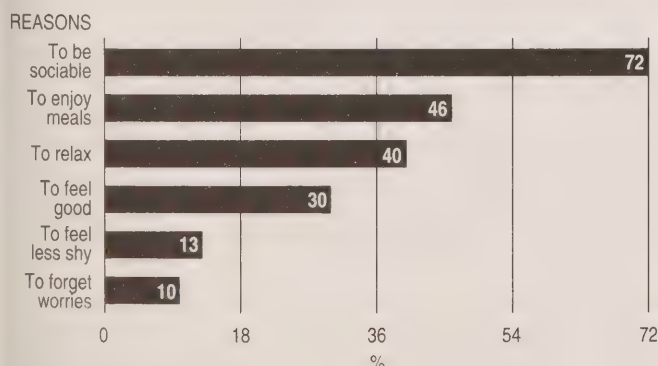
In the present study, respondents were offered six reasons for why people drink and then asked to endorse one or more items that described their own reasons for drinking during the 12 months preceding the survey (Q18 in Appendix B). The reasons provided were: a) to be sociable; b) to add to the enjoyment of meals; c) to feel good; d) to relax; e) to forget worries; and f) to feel less inhibited or shy.

General Findings



It is clear that social considerations or pressures often motivate people's alcohol consumption (Figure 1 and Table 1). Seven out of ten current drinkers (72%) 15 years of age and over claim that they consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to be sociable. To add to the enjoyment of meals is the next most common reason for consuming alcohol (46%), followed by drinking to relax (40%), to feel good (30%), to feel less shy or inhibited (13%) and to forget worries (10%).

Figure 1:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Age

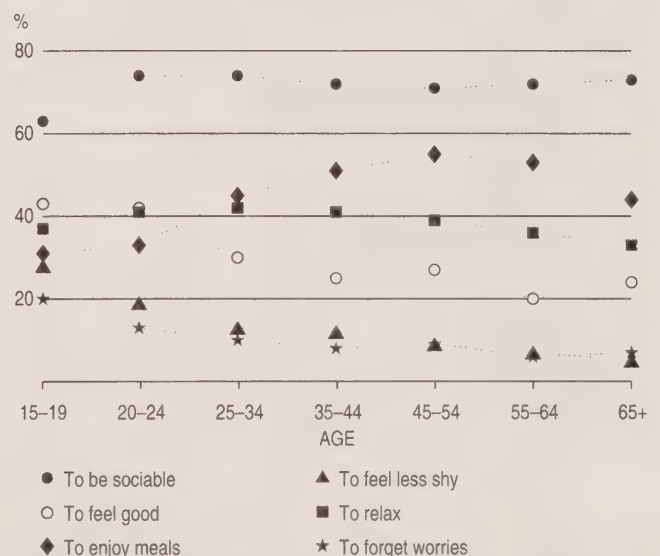


Regardless of age, drinking to be sociable is the most commonly reported reason for drinking (Figure 2 and Table 1). Interestingly, social motivations are least common among Canadians who are still in their teens. Approximately 63% of 15 to 19 year olds report drinking for this reason, compared to at least 71% of the drinkers in all other age groups. Current drinkers who are between 20 and 34 years of age (74%) are the most likely to report social motivations for drinking.

The percentage of current drinkers who report that they drink in order to enjoy meals tends to increase with age (Figure 2 and Table 1). For example, 31% of 15 to 19 year olds report drinking for this reason, compared to 55% of 45 to 54 year olds and 53% of those between 55 and 64 years of age.

Over 30% of current drinkers in each age category report that they drink in order to relax (Table 1). Differences between groups are quite small. Young adults 25 to 34 years of age are most likely to report

Figure 2:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



that they consume alcohol for this reason (42%). On the other hand, drinking to relax is least common among the youngest (37%) and oldest (33%) age groups.

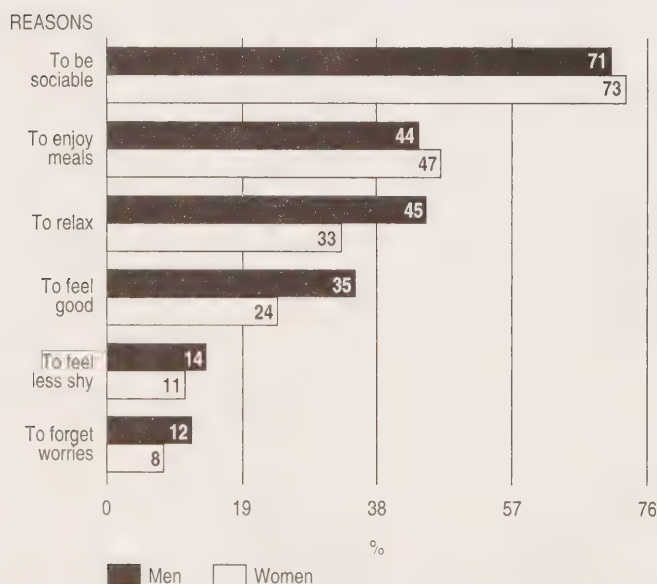
The percentage of current drinkers who report drinking to feel good, to forget worries and to feel less inhibited tends to decrease with age (Table 1). For example, 43% of 15 to 19 year olds report that they drink in order to feel good, compared to 20% of current drinkers who are between 55 and 64 years of age. Similarly, two out of every ten current drinkers (20%) 15 to 19 years of age report that they drink in order to forget their worries, compared to 7% of drinkers who are 65 years of age and older.

Sex



Female drinkers (73%) are slightly more likely than male drinkers (71%) to report that they consume alcohol in order to be sociable (Figure 3 and Table 1). Similarly, women (47%) are somewhat more likely than men (44%) to report that they drink in order to add to the enjoyment of meals.

Figure 3:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



On the other hand, the data suggest that male drinkers are more apt than female drinkers to use alcohol as a means of facilitating mood change. For example, a higher percentage of men than women report that they drink in order to relax (45% vs. 33%), to feel good (35% vs. 24%), to forget worries (12% vs. 8%) and to feel less shy or inhibited (14% vs. 11%).

Gender differences in drinking motivation tend to increase with age (Table 1). For example, 43% of the men and 39% of the women in the 20 to 24 year old category report that they consume alcohol in order to relax — a difference of only four percentage points. By contrast, 42% of male drinkers in the 65 years of age and over category report that they consume alcohol in order to relax, compared to 24% of the women — a difference of 18 percentage points.

Region



The majority of current drinkers from each province report that they consume alcohol in order to be sociable — with one exception. Less than half of the drinkers in Quebec (49%) report drinking for this reason. In fact, Quebec is the only province where drinking to be sociable is not the most commonly cited drinking motivation. The data suggest that social reasons for drinking are most common in the Atlantic and Prairie provinces (Figure 4 and Table 2).

Drinking in order to add to the enjoyment of meals is the most commonly cited drinking motivation in Quebec (Table 2). Over half (55%) of the current drinkers in this province report consuming alcohol for this reason, followed by the residents of Ontario (46%), British Columbia (46%) and Alberta (43%). Drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals is least common in the Atlantic region (Table 2).

Drinking to relax is most likely to be reported by current drinkers in Atlantic Canada. Almost half (49%) of the drinkers in Newfoundland report drinking for this reason, followed by Prince Edward Island (47%), New Brunswick (45%) and Nova Scotia (44%). The residents of Quebec (36%) are least likely to report this type of drinking motivation (Table 2).

Over one-quarter of the drinkers from each province report that they drink in order to feel good (Table 2). This type of drinking motivation appears to

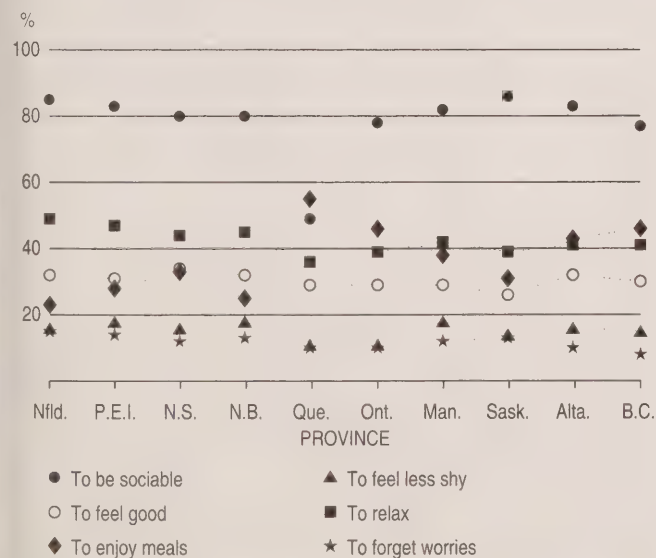
be most prevalent in the Atlantic provinces and Alberta. All other provinces fall at or below the national rate (30%).

Provincial differences in drinking to forget worries or reduce inhibitions are relatively small and should be interpreted with caution.

Drinking to reduce inhibitions is least common in central Canada. Ontario (11%) and Quebec (12%) are the only provinces that fall below the national rate of 13%. At least 14% of the drinkers in all other provinces report that they have consumed alcohol for this reason (Table 2). The percentage of drinkers who report that they have consumed alcohol to reduce inhibitions is highest in Prince Edward Island (18%), New Brunswick (18%) and Manitoba (18%).

Drinking to forget worries is most prevalent among current drinkers living in Atlantic Canada (Table 2). Almost one out of every seven drinkers in Newfoundland (15%) provide this reason for consuming alcohol, followed by Prince Edward Island (14%) and New Brunswick (13%). British Columbia (8%) is the only province where the percentage of drinkers who consume alcohol to forget worries falls below the national rate (10%).

Figure 4:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989



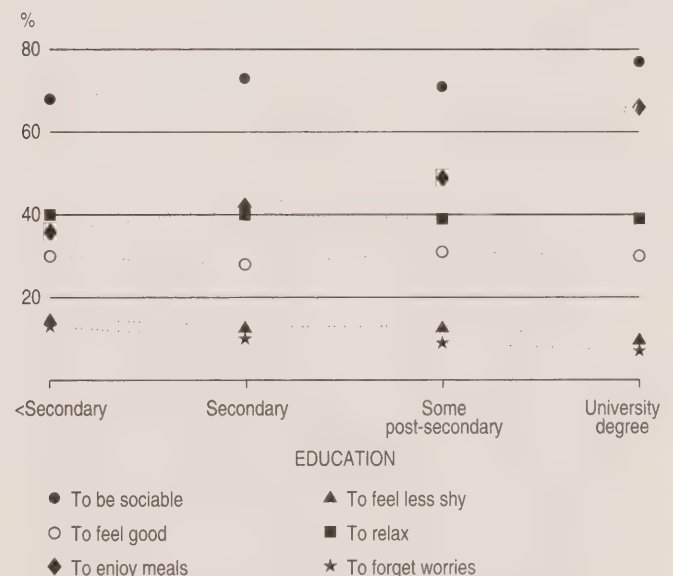
Education

The majority of current drinkers from each educational group report that they consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to be sociable (Table 3). Nevertheless, there is evidence to suggest that drinking to be sociable increases with level of educational attainment. For example, 77% of current drinkers with a university degree report drinking to be sociable, compared to 69% of those with less than a high-school education.

The data also suggest that there is a positive relationship between education and drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals (Figure 5 and Table 3). Two-thirds (66%) of the current drinkers with a university degree report that they consumed alcohol for this reason in the year preceding the survey, compared to 36% of those without a high-school diploma.

There is very little difference between educational categories in terms of either drinking to relax or drinking to feel good. However, drinking in order to forget worries is more prevalent among current drinkers with low educational attainment. For example, 13% of current drinkers with less than a

Figure 5:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



high-school education report drinking in order to forget their worries, compared to 7% of those with a university degree. Similarly, current drinkers with a university degree are less likely than those in other educational categories to report that they drink in order to reduce their inhibitions (Figure 5 and Table 3).

Income



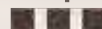
Regardless of income, the majority of current drinkers report that they consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to be sociable (Figure 6 and Table 4). However, as with education, the likelihood of reporting this type of drinking motivation increases slightly with income. For example, 77% of current drinkers with an annual household income of \$60,000 or more report that they consume alcohol for social reasons, compared to 69% of those with household incomes less than \$10,000.

The percentage of current drinkers reporting that they drink in order to add to the enjoyment of meals increases with household income (Figure 6 and Table 4). Over half (56%) of current drinkers with a household income of \$60,000 per year or more report that they consume alcohol for this reason, compared

to 37% of those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 35% of those with household incomes less than \$10,000.

There is very little difference between income groups in terms of drinking to relax, drinking to feel good and drinking to lessen inhibitions (Figure 6 and Table 4). However, drinking in order to forget worries is more prevalent among Canadians with low incomes. For example, 15% of current drinkers with household incomes less than \$10,000 per year and 13% with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 report drinking in order to forget their worries, compared to 9% of those with household incomes of \$60,000 or more.

Employment Status

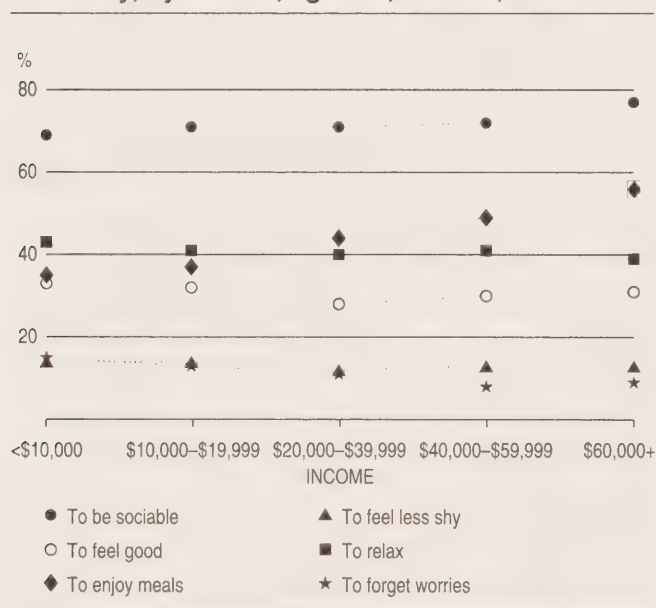


The majority of current drinkers from each occupational category report social reasons for consuming alcohol (Table 5). Drinking to be sociable is most common among retired persons (76%) and those in managerial or professional positions (76%). Those who are looking for work (66%) and students (67%) are the least likely to report this type of drinking motivation.

Canadians in managerial or professional occupations are much more likely than those in other occupations to report drinking in order to add to the enjoyment of meals (Table 5). Six out of every ten managers/professionals (61%) report this type of drinking motivation, followed by retired persons (47%), homemakers (47%) and those holding other white-collar jobs (44%). Drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals is least common among current drinkers who are looking for work (25%), students (35%) and blue-collar workers (39%).

Students (40%), those looking for work (39%) and blue-collar workers (36%) are most likely to report that they consume alcohol in order to feel good (Table 5). This type of drinking motivation is least common among homemakers (19%), retired persons (25%) and those with white-collar jobs other than managers/professionals (26%). Drinking to relax is most common among blue-collar workers (50%), followed by those who are looking for work (45%) and persons in either managerial/professional or other white-collar occupations (40%). Drinking to relax is

Figure 6:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



least common among homemakers (29%) and retired persons (32%).

Drinking to forget worries is most common among those who are looking for work (21%), students (17%) and blue-collar workers (13%) (Table 5). All other occupational categories are either at or below the national rate (10%). As with drinking to forget, drinking to feel less inhibited is most likely to occur among those who are looking for work (25%), students (23%) and blue-collar workers (16%). This type of drinking motivation is least common among retired persons (4%) and homemakers (10%).

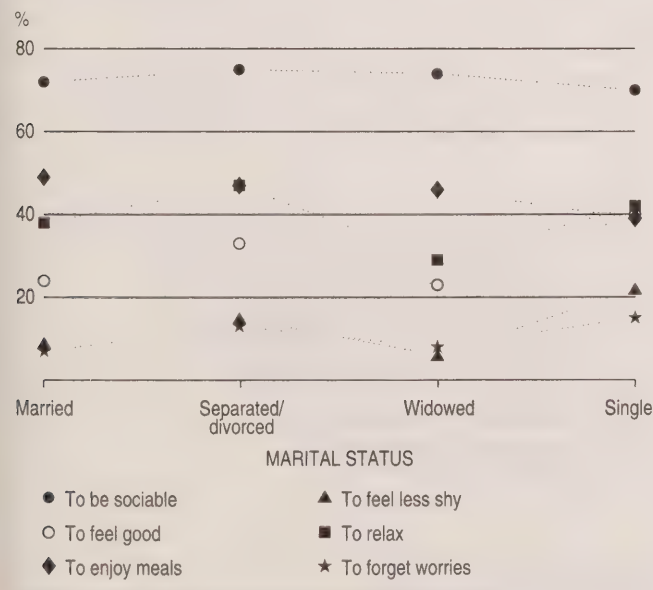
Marital Status



At least 70% of the current drinkers from each marital status category reported drinking to be sociable in the year preceding the survey (Figure 7 and Table 6), and the differences between these categories are small.

Drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals is not as common among single (never married) persons (39%) as it is among those who are married (49%), separated/divorced (48%) or widowed (46%). On the

Figure 7:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



other hand, drinking in order to feel good is most prevalent among single persons (40%), followed by those who are separated or divorced (33%), married (24%) and widowed (23%).

Current drinkers who are either separated or divorced (47%) are most likely to report that they drink in order to relax, followed by those who are single (42%), married (38%) and widowed (29%). A higher percentage of single persons (15%) and those who are separated or divorced (13%) report drinking to forget their worries than those who are either widowed (8%) or married (7%). As with drinking to forget troubles, drinking to reduce inhibitions is most common among single persons (22%), followed by those who are separated or divorced (15%), married (9%) and widowed (6%).

Language



Anglophones (80%) are more likely to report drinking for social reasons than both Francophones (49%) and those who speak another language at home (67%). On the other hand, French-speaking drinkers (53%) and those who speak another language (53%) are more likely to report drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals than those who speak English (43%). These findings are consistent with regional data that show that drinking to be sociable is less common in Quebec than in other provinces, whereas drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals is more common (Table 2).

Reasons for Drinking and Level of Consumption

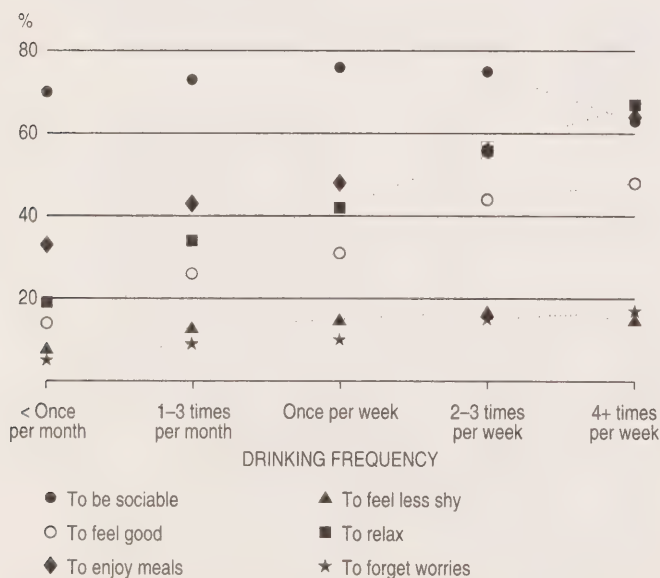


The data suggest that there is a positive relationship between drinking to escape reality or facilitate mood change and frequency of alcohol consumption (Figure 8 and Table 8). For example, 67% of the current drinkers who consume alcohol four or more times per week report that they drink in order to relax, compared to 19% of those who drink less than once per month and 34% of those who drink between one and three times per month. Similarly, 17% of those who drink four or more times per week report that they drink in order to forget their worries, compared to only 5% of those who drink less than once per month and 9% of those who drink between one and three times per month.

Drinking to facilitate mood change (i.e., to forget worries, to feel good, to relax, to reduce inhibitions) is also positively related to the number of alcoholic beverages consumed per week (Figure 9 and Table 9). Twenty-two percent of current drinkers who consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey claim that they drink to forget their worries, compared to 8% of those who did not have a drink and 9% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks. Similarly, 66% of those who consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report drinking to relax, compared to 28% of those who did not have a drink and 45% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks.

Overall, those who report that they consume alcohol in order to forget their worries consume an average of 8.3 drinks per week, followed by those who drink to feel good (6.3 drinks), to feel less inhibited or shy (5.8 drinks), to relax (5.7 drinks), to add to the enjoyment of meals (4.1 drinks) and to be sociable (3.7 drinks) (Figure 10). It is important to remember that the reasons for drinking provided by the survey are not mutually exclusive. Respondents were asked to identify all of the drinking motivations that applied to their own experience. Thus, for example, the

Figure 8:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by frequency of alcohol consumption, age 15+, Canada, 1989



majority of people who report that they drink to forget their worries also report that they consume alcohol to be sociable (Table 10). We can therefore conclude that estimates of the average number of drinks consumed per week would be even lower for those who drink to be sociable if we excluded those who also drink for other reasons.

Figure 9:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

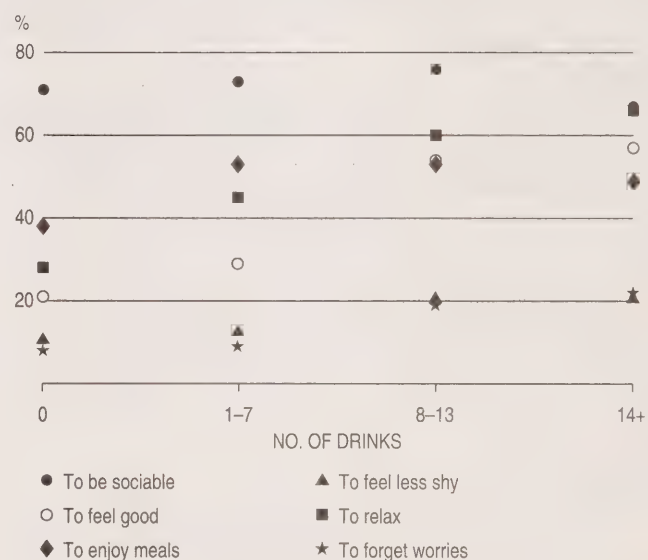
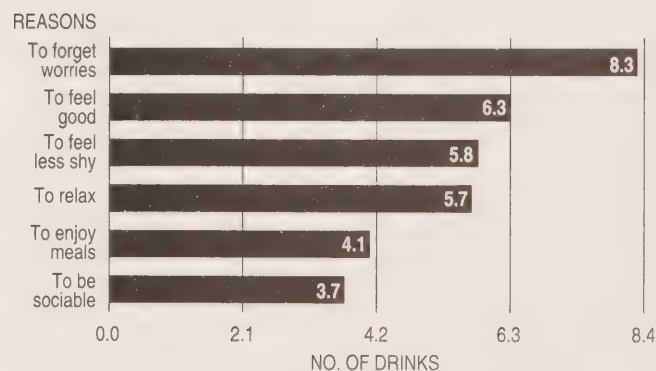


Figure 10:
Average number of drinks consumed per week, by reasons for drinking, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760

Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Drinking to escape reality or facilitate mood change is also positively related to heavy drinking activity (Figure 11 and Table 11). As defined in Chapter 1, heavy drinking activity refers to the number of times the respondent consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey. One out of every four current drinkers (22%) who reported drinking heavily on six or more occasions in the year preceding the survey report that they consume alcohol in order to forget their worries, compared to only 5% of those who did not engage in this type of behaviour. Similarly, 25% of those who consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions report drinking to reduce inhibitions, compared to only 7% of those who did not engage in heavy drinking activity.

The data also suggest that the number of drinking motivations provided by current drinkers is positively related to consumption level. For example, those who drink less than once per month report, on average, 1.5 reasons for drinking, compared to 2.7 reasons for those who drink four times a week or more often (Figure 12). Similarly, current drinkers who did not have a drink in the week preceding the survey pro-

vide an average of 1.8 reasons for drinking, compared to 3.2 reasons for those who consumed 14 drinks or more (Figure 13). Finally, current drinkers who report that they did not consume five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey provide an average of 1.7 reasons for drinking, compared to 3.1 reasons for those who did so six times or more (Figure 14).

Figure 11:
Reasons for drinking, by number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

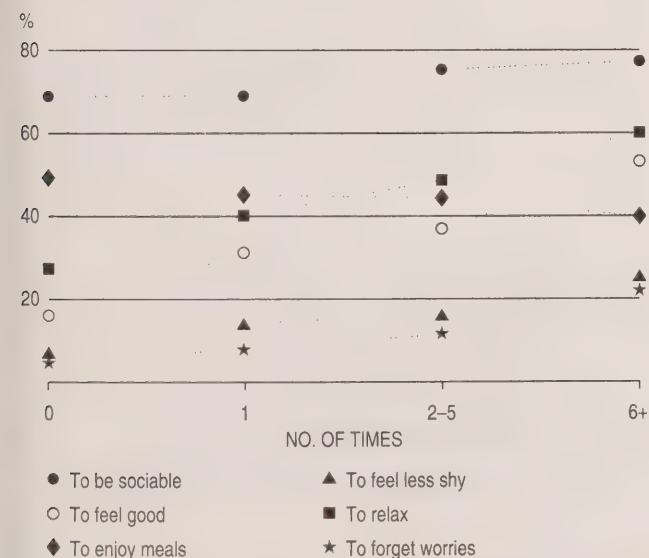
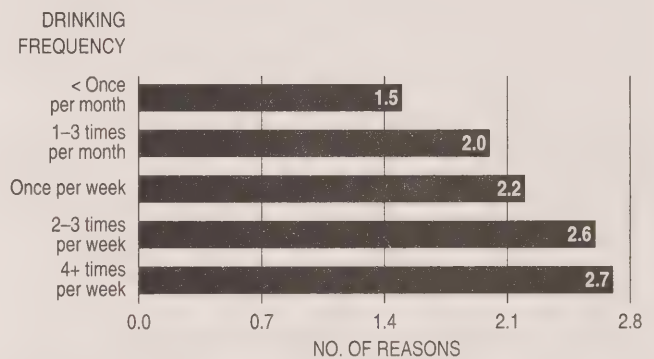
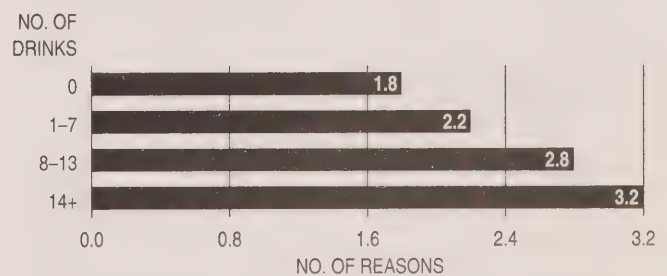


Figure 12:
Average number of reasons for drinking, by frequency of alcohol consumption, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Figure 13:
Average number of reasons for drinking, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Reasons for Drinking and Alcohol-Related Problems

The data also suggest that drinking to escape reality or facilitate mood change is positively related to alcohol-related problems (Figure 15 and Table 12). Forty percent of the current drinkers who report that they drink in order to forget their worries experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, followed by 30% of those who drink to feel less shy or inhibited, 24% of those who drink to feel good, 19% of those who drink to relax, 12% of those who drink to be sociable and 10% of those who consume alcohol in order to add to the enjoyment of meals.

The data also suggest that problem drinkers are more likely to provide multiple reasons for consuming alcohol. For example, those who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey provide, on average, 3.2 reasons for drinking, compared to 2.0 reasons for those who did not have a problem (data not tabulated in report).

Discussion

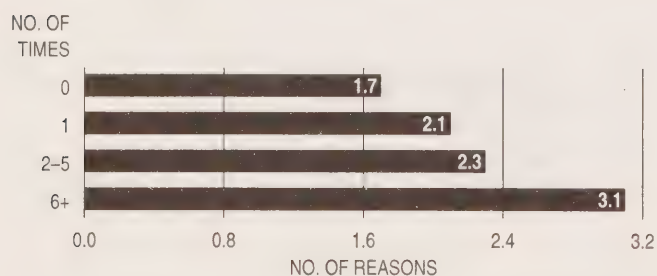
The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that drinking to be sociable is the most common reason for consuming alcohol. A significant proportion of the population also drinks to add to the enjoyment of meals. Drinking to escape reality or

facilitate mood change (i.e., drinking to forget worries, to relax, to feel good, to reduce inhibitions) is far less prevalent.

In general, the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey are consistent with previous research. Drinking motivation was first investigated in a systematic manner by Riley and his colleagues (Riley et al. 1948). They proposed that there is a fundamental difference between *social* and *personal* motivations for drinking — an idea that has greatly influenced subsequent research. Social reasons, they maintained, include drinking to celebrate, as a business courtesy and to be sociable. Personal reasons, on the other hand, involve drinking in order to escape reality or to facilitate mood change (e.g., to forget worries, to alleviate stress, to feel good).

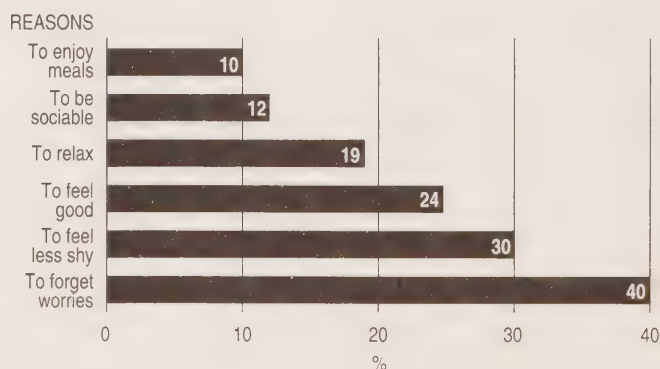
Riley and his associates (Riley et al. 1948) investigated this idea using data from a nation-wide U.S. survey. Their technique was to first record responses to the open-ended question, "What would you say was your main reason for drinking?" The answers were then allocated, on a common-sense basis, to one of the investigators' two motivational categories. The results of their analysis also indicate that social reasons are more common than personal reasons for drinking.

Figure 14:
Average number of reasons for drinking, by number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Figure 15:
Percentage of current drinkers who had a problem with their own alcohol use in the year preceding the survey, by reasons for drinking, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Rather than arbitrarily classifying reasons for drinking as either "social" or "personal," a number of researchers have used factor analytic techniques in order to identify underlying motivational dimensions. The findings from a number of these studies support the original social-personal dichotomy (e.g., Makela 1971; Farber et al. 1980; Segal et al. 1980). However, many investigations have identified additional reasons for drinking. In particular, enjoyment or lifestyle factors (Edwards et al. 1972; Snow 1975; Dight 1976; Glynn et al. 1983) and sensation seeking (McCarty and Kaye 1984; Ratliffe and Burkhart 1984; Schwarz et al. 1978) have emerged as distinct reasons for drinking. Lifestyle or enjoyment motivations include drinking to enhance the quality of meals, because one enjoys the taste and because it is thought to be healthy. Sensation seeking involves drinking to get high or to escape boredom. Unlike personal reasons, emphasis is placed on the attainment of physiological sensation rather than the reduction of psychological distress. Consistent with the results of the present survey, most of these studies find that social and lifestyle reasons for drinking are much more widespread than personal and sensation-seeking motivations.

Eliany and Giesbrecht's (1989) analysis of Canada's National Drinking and Driving Survey also found that "acceptable" reasons for drinking (i.e., drinking for the taste, to be with friends or to enjoy a social occasion) are more common than reasons that suggest that alcohol is consumed in order to solve personal problems. For example, 76% of the respondents in the National Drinking and Driving Survey report drinking to be with friends, and 75% report drinking to enjoy social occasions. By contrast, only 32% of the respondents report drinking to reduce stress, and 21% report drinking to alleviate feelings of sadness or loneliness.

Past research has consistently found that reasons for drinking are associated with various social characteristics, including gender (Jung 1977; Kilty 1980; Ratliffe and Burkhart 1984; Partanen 1987), age (Mulford and Miller 1960; Eliany and Giesbrecht 1989) and social class (Makela 1971; Pearlin and Radabaugh 1976; Partanen 1987). In general, personal and sensation-seeking motivations are more common among men, those from lower-class backgrounds and young people. Conversely, social reasons are more common among women and older people.

Lifestyle or enjoyment reasons have been found to be positively associated with both education and income.

The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also suggest that personal reasons for drinking are more common among men than women. As with most explanations of reported gender differences in alcohol consumption, this finding may be explained by differential socialization experiences (Parker et al. 1980). In other words, men may be more likely than women to learn that it is acceptable to use alcohol as a coping device. The findings also indicate that age is negatively associated with personal reasons for drinking. This is consistent with Jung's (1977) assertion that personal motives represent an "immature" drinking profile.

Drinking in order to add to the enjoyment of meals is positively associated with both education and income. This finding suggests that such motivations are indicative of a lifestyle associated with having greater personal resources.

The results indicate that drinking to be sociable is more common among English-speaking Canadians, whereas drinking to enjoy meals is more common among Francophones. This finding suggests distinct cultural approaches to alcohol consumption, which may warrant further investigation.

The present analysis clearly indicates that there is a strong positive relationship between personal reasons for drinking and level of alcohol consumption. The findings also suggest that drinking for personal reasons is associated with incidence of alcohol-related problems. Heavy and problem drinkers also provide more reasons for drinking, on average, than light or infrequent drinkers.

Most of the studies cited above have also provided evidence that suggests that drinking for personal or escapist reasons is associated with heavy drinking behaviour. By contrast, social and lifestyle motivations are related to low or moderate consumption levels (see also Knupfer et al. 1963; Lindbeck 1972; Celentano and McQueen 1978; Donovan and Marlatt 1982; Christopherson et al. 1984; Cutter and O'Farrell 1984). There is also evidence that suggests that personal reasons for drinking are especially common among those with alcohol-related problems (Mulford 1977; Glynn et al. 1983; Allan and Cooke 1985).

Eliany and Giesbrecht's (1989) analysis of Canada's National Drinking and Driving Survey also found that those who drink frequently or drink heavily are more likely than others to indicate that they drink to reduce stress, because they are sad or lonely or because they want to "gain control." For example, approximately 60% of the respondents in that survey who drink four or more times per week claim that they drink in order to reduce stress, and 41% drink because they are sad or lonely. By comparison, only 20% of those who drink less than once a week report drinking because of stress, and only 13% drink because they are sad or lonely. Likewise, 67% of the respondents who reported drinking 22 or more drinks in the seven days preceding the interview reported that they drank in order to reduce stress. By contrast, only 35% of those who drank between one and seven drinks indicated that they drank for this reason.

The fact that "personal" motivation to drink is associated with heavy and problem alcohol consumption may be explained by the fact that the ritual and convivial uses of alcohol are normatively controlled and socially integrative, whereas the stress-reducing uses of alcohol are likely to be uncontrolled and thus subject to abuse (Bales 1946).

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey clearly demonstrate the value of examining self-report motives for drinking. Information on drinking motivation not only increases our ability to predict both consumption levels and problem incidence, but also gives us some insight into the psychological bases of drinking behaviour. Personal reasons for drinking place emphasis on the physiological effects of alcohol. They often reflect the use of alcohol as a coping device: a method for temporarily escaping problems, relieving tensions or facilitating mood change. This suggests that those involved in the treatment of alcohol-related problems should be concerned with providing their clients with alternative coping strategies.

The implications of these findings are also relevant to prevention policies concerned with educating the general public about acceptable drinking behaviour (i.e., the use of alcohol in moderation without adversely affecting oneself or others). Such prevention initiatives must have at their foundation a precise characterization of the "responsible drinker."

Identifying motives associated with both moderate and heavy drinking is a possible first step in this direction.

Part Two: Reasons for Not Drinking

Definitions

The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that one out of five Canadians (22%) aged 15 and over did not consume an alcoholic beverage in the year preceding the survey (see Chapter 1 for a review). This group can be divided into *former drinkers* (those who consumed alcohol on a regular basis in the past — 16%) and *lifetime abstainers* (those who have never consumed an alcoholic beverage — 7%).

All non-drinkers were presented with 12 reasons why people limit their drinking or avoid drinking altogether. They were then asked to identify the reasons that reflected their own motives for abstaining (Q13 in Appendix B). The reasons provided were: 1) health reasons, not healthy; 2) don't like the taste; 3) don't like the effect it has on me; 4) I have seen examples of what alcohol can do; 5) for diet reasons, in athletic training; 6) I am afraid I will become dependent on alcohol; 7) drinking could affect my job; 8) waste of money; 9) religious reasons; 10) brought up not to drink; 11) alcoholic or had alcohol problem; and 12) other reasons.

Due to low frequency distributions, certain items were combined to form new variables. This reduces the number of reasons for abstaining to be discussed in this report from 12 to eight. "Diet reasons, in athletic training" was combined with "health reasons, not healthy" to form a new variable denoting "health reasons" for not drinking. Similarly, "don't like the effect it has on me," "I have seen examples of what alcohol can do," "I am afraid I will become dependent on alcohol" and "drinking could affect my job" were combined into a new variable and renamed "do not like the effect."

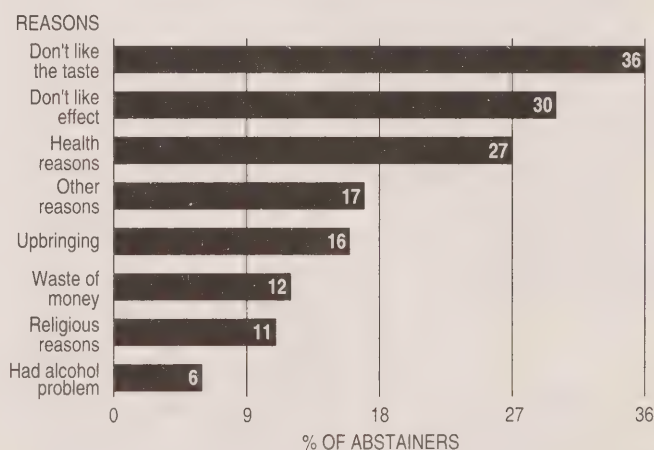
General Findings

One-third of abstainers (36%) report that they do not drink because they dislike the taste of alcohol (Figure 16 and Table 13). Because one does not like the effect alcohol has on self or others is the second

most common reason for abstaining (30%), followed by health reasons (27%), other reasons (17%), because one was brought up not to drink (16%), because one thinks alcohol is a waste of money (12%), religious reasons (11%) and because one is an alcoholic or had an alcohol-related problem in the past (6%).

Lifetime abstainers are more likely than former drinkers to report that they do not consume alcohol because they were brought up not to drink (25% vs. 12%), because they dislike the taste (43% vs. 34%), because of religious reasons (14% vs. 10%) and because they do not like the effect (33% vs. 29%). On the other hand, former drinkers are more likely than lifetime abstainers to report that they do not drink because of health reasons (29% vs. 22%), because it is a waste of money (13% vs. 11%) and because of other reasons (18% vs. 16%). Approximately 8% of former drinkers report that they do not drink because they are an alcoholic or had an alcohol problem in the past (Figure 17). Lifetime abstainers did not provide this reason for abstaining. By definition, lifetime abstainers have never consumed alcohol and therefore could not possibly develop a drinking problem.

Figure 16:
Reasons for not consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sex

As can be seen in Figure 18, women are more likely than men to report that they abstain from drinking because they dislike the taste of alcohol (44% vs. 23%) and because they were brought up not to drink (18% vs. 11%). On the other hand, men are more likely to report that they do not drink because they are an alcoholic or had a drinking problem in the past (12% vs. 2%), because they do not like the effect of alcohol (34% vs. 28%), for health reasons (30% vs. 25%), because it is a waste of money (16% vs. 11%) and because of other reasons (21% vs. 15%). Similar percentages of men and women report abstaining for religious reasons (Table 13).

Age

The data suggest that abstaining for health reasons tends to increase with age (Table 13). For example, 32% of abstainers who are 55 years of age and older report that they do not drink because of health rea-

sons, compared to 23% of both 35 to 54 year olds and 15 to 34 year olds. Similarly, abstainers who are 55 years of age and older are slightly more likely to report that they do not drink because it is a waste of money (14%), followed by 15 to 34 year olds (12%) and 35 to 54 year olds (10%). Those in the oldest age category (20%) are also more likely than 35 to 54 year olds (11%) and 15 to 34 year olds (15%) to report that they do not drink because of their upbringing.

Four out of ten abstainers (39%) 15 to 34 years of age report that they do not drink because they do not like the taste of alcohol, compared to 35% of both 35 to 54 year olds and those who are 55 years of age and older (Table 13). Those who are 15 to 34 years of age are also most likely to report that they do not drink because they do not like the effect of alcohol (34%), followed by 35 to 54 year olds (32%) and those who are 55 and over (27%). Abstainers who are between 35 and 54 years of age are most likely to report that they do not drink because they are an alcoholic or had a drinking problem in the past (9%), followed by those who are 55 years of age and over (6%) and 15 to 34 year olds (3%).

Figure 17:
Reasons for not consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, by drinking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

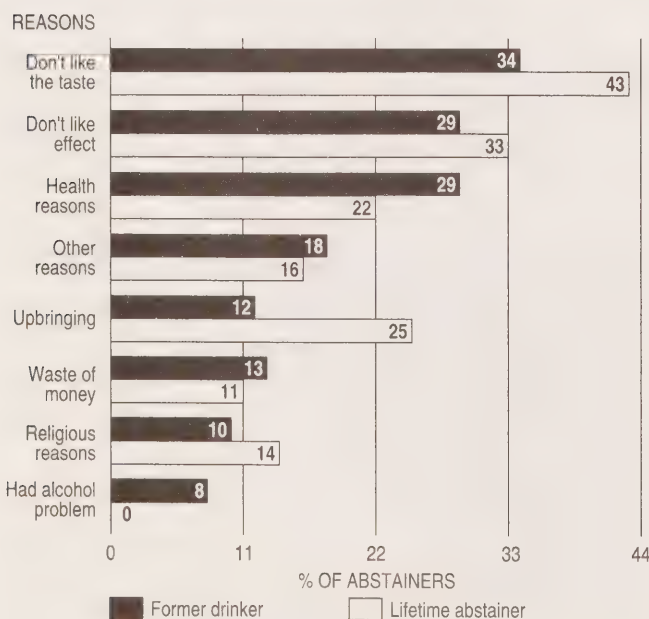
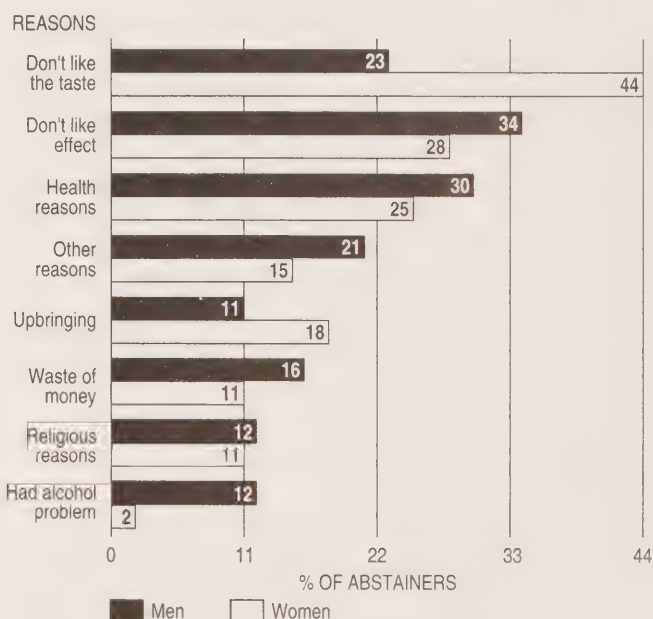


Figure 18:
Reasons for not consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Education



Abstainers in the highest and lowest educational categories are most likely to report health reasons for not consuming alcohol (Table 14). One out of three abstainers with a university degree (38%) report not drinking for health considerations, followed by those with less than a high-school education (30%), those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree (21%) and those with a high-school diploma (21%).

The data suggest that there is a positive relationship between education and abstaining for religious reasons. Two out of ten abstainers (20%) with a university degree report that they do not drink because of religious reasons, compared to 17% with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 13% with a high-school diploma and 8% of those with less than a high-school education. On the other hand, those in the lower educational categories are slightly more likely to report that they abstain because they were brought up not to drink (Table 14).

There is also a slight positive relationship between education and abstaining because one does not like the effect of alcohol (Table 14).

There is no clear relationship between education and abstaining because one does not like the taste of alcohol or because one had an alcohol-related problem in the past (Table 14). Those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree (42%) are most likely to report that they do not drink because they dislike the taste of alcohol, followed by those with a high-school diploma (38%), those with less than high school (35%) and those with a university degree (30%). Abstainers with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree are also most likely to report that they do not drink because they had an alcohol-related problem in the past (8%), followed by those with a university degree (7%), those with less than high school (6%) and those with a high-school diploma (5%). A similar percentage of abstainers from each educational category report that they do not drink because it is a waste of money (Table 14).

Income



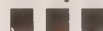
The data suggest that abstaining for health reasons decreases as household income increases (Table 15). For example, 31% of the abstainers in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 report that they do not drink because of health reasons, compared to 20% of those with household incomes of \$60,000 a year or more. There is also a slight negative relationship between income and abstaining because one does not like the taste of alcohol. Four out of ten abstainers (43%) with household incomes less than \$10,000 per year report this reason for not drinking, compared to 33% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more.

On the other hand, those with high incomes are more likely than those with low incomes to report abstaining because they do not like the effect alcohol has on self or others (Table 15). For example, 39% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more per year report that they do not drink because they dislike the effects of alcohol, compared to 28% of those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 31% of those in households with incomes less than \$10,000.

Abstaining for religious reasons also increases slightly with income (Table 15). For example, 20% of those with household incomes between \$40,000 and \$59,999 and 18% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more report that they do not drink because of religious reasons, compared to 10% of those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 per year.

Surprisingly, those in the lowest income category (11%) are also less likely than those in the highest income category (14%) to report that they do not drink because it is a waste of money (Table 15). There is no clear relationship between income and either abstaining because of upbringing or abstaining because of previous alcohol-related problems.

Employment Status



Retired abstainers are most likely to report that they do not drink because of health reasons (35%), followed by blue-collar workers (29%), managers/professionals

(28%), those keeping house (23%), students (22%) and other white-collar workers (19%) (Table 16).

Individuals who are keeping house are most likely to report that they do not drink because they dislike the taste of alcohol (43%), followed by those who are looking for work (40%), other white-collar workers (39%), managers/professionals (38%), students (34%), those who are retired (32%) and blue-collar workers (31%).

Students (42%) are most likely to report that they abstain from drinking because they do not like the effect alcohol has on self or others, followed by those who are looking for work (37%), blue-collar workers (32%), managers/professionals (31%), other white-collar workers (30%), those keeping house (29%) and those who are retired (27%).

Students are also the most likely to report that they do not drink because it is a waste of money (16%), followed by those who are looking for work (percentage suppressed), those who are retired (15%), blue-collar workers (12%), those keeping house (11%), managers/professionals (9%) and other white-collar workers (9%) (Table 16).

Interestingly, managers/professionals are most likely to report that they do not drink because of religious reasons (21%), followed by other white-collar workers (13%), blue-collar workers (11%), those keeping house (11%), those who are retired (10%) and students (6%).

Retired abstainers (21%) are most likely to report that they do not drink because they were brought up not to, followed by those keeping house (19%), students (16%), white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (12%), blue-collar workers (11%) and managers/professionals (11%).

Those who are looking for work are most likely to report that they do not drink because they had a drinking problem in the past (percentage suppressed), followed by blue-collar workers (11%), managers/professionals (8%), other white-collar workers (7%) and those who are retired (7%) (Table 16).

Marital Status



Widowed abstainers (30%) are most likely to report that they do not drink because of health reasons, followed by those who are married (27%), single (never married) (26%) and separated/divorced (24%) (Table 17). Widowed abstainers and those who have never been married are most likely to report that they do not drink because they dislike the taste of alcohol (39% each), followed by those who are married (35%) and those who are separated/divorced (32%).

Abstainers who are either single (36%) or separated/divorced (36%) are more likely than those who are married (28%) or widowed (28%) to report that they do not drink because they do not like the effect alcohol has on self or others (Table 17). Single abstainers are also the most likely to report that they do not drink because it is a waste of money (17%), followed by those who are widowed (12%), married (11%) and either separated or divorced (10%).

Abstaining for religious reasons is most prevalent among those who are currently married (14%), followed by those who are divorced or separated (10%), single (8%) and widowed (8%). On the other hand, widowed individuals are most likely to report that they do not drink because they were brought up not to (25%), followed by those who are married (15%), never married (14%) and separated/divorced (9%).

Non-drinkers who are either separated or divorced are most likely to report that they currently abstain from alcohol because they had an alcohol-related problem in the past (15%), followed by those who are married (7%), widowed (percentage suppressed) and never married (percentage suppressed).

Language



Abstainers who speak a language other than French or English are most likely to report that they do not drink because of health reasons (31%), followed by Anglophones (28%) and Francophones (22%) (Table 18). Those who speak another language are also most likely to report that they abstain from alcohol because of religious reasons (19%), followed by Anglophones (14%) and Francophones (3%).

French-speaking abstainers are the most likely to report that they do not drink because they do not like the taste of alcohol (54%), followed by those who speak another language (42%) and those who speak English (29%). Abstaining because one does not like the effect of alcohol is also more prevalent among Francophones (32%) than Anglophones (31%) and those who speak another language (20%). Francophones (7%) are also slightly more likely than Anglophones (6%) and those who speak another language (percentage suppressed) to report that they currently abstain from alcohol because they had an alcohol-related problem in the past (Table 18).

English-speaking abstainers are most likely to report that they do not drink because it is a waste of money (14%), followed by those who speak French (9%) and those who speak another language (percentage suppressed). Similarly, Anglophones (18%) are more likely than Francophones (10%) and those who speak another language (14%) to report that they currently abstain from alcohol because they were brought up not to drink (Table 18).

Discussion



Because it is a non-problematic behaviour, abstention has not been a major topic in the field of alcohol research. The literature that does exist is generally limited to discussions of the socio-demographic correlates of abstainers. With few exceptions, reasons for abstaining have remained largely unexplored.

Although it is widely assumed that most people abstain from alcohol consumption because of moral or religious reasons, the few studies that have actually considered this topic have identified a wide variety of motivations for not drinking. Knupfer and Room (1970) group the reasons that San Francisco abstainers gave to open-ended questions into three distinct categories: religious and moral reasons, inconsequential reasons (dislike of smell or taste or general statements of indifference) and circumstantial reasons (which included financial, social and health reasons along with bad previous experience). Similar results are reported by Cahalan et al. (1969). These groupings, however, are arbitrarily imposed by the analysts, and no attempt is made to show either that these are independent reason domains or that the various reasons within each category are empirically related.

Hilton (1986) also looked at data on abstention from a 1979 general population survey in the United States. Unlike previous researchers, Hilton used cluster analysis of reasons for abstaining in order to identify four sets of reasons: moral objection to drinking, dislike of the consequences of drinking, inconsequential reasons and abstinent family background. The first cluster indicated that drinking was eschewed as a matter of principle. It contained the views that drinking is morally wrong or religiously objectionable, along with statements that either bad behaviour or damage to one's reputation could result from drinking. The second cluster contained various adverse consequences that can result from drinking: general statements of dislike or unpleasantness, concern about health risks, recognition that alcohol is fattening, experience of having seen the adverse effects of drinking on others, and so on.

Following the language of Knupfer and Room (1970), the third cluster is labelled "inconsequential." As in the earlier research, this set of reasons includes dislike for the taste of alcohol and general indifference. Cluster IV contains only one item — family background. It is interesting that the family background item is independent of the "morality" cluster. As moral proscriptions against drinking are passed on through familial socialization, it was thought that the family background item would be associated with morality and religious items.

Overall, Hilton's analysis of the reasons for abstaining provides empirical support for earlier work. Once again, moralistic reasons were found to be but one of several categories of explanation. Adverse consequences (called "circumstantial" reasons in earlier research) and inconsequential reasons were again shown to be separate categories of explanation. Finally, family background emerged as a distinct classification, a finding that did not appear in earlier work.

The 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also identifies the fact that there are a number of important reasons for abstaining from alcohol consumption. Most of these reasons fit into one of the general categories described by Hilton (1986) and others. One-third of abstainers report that they do not drink because they dislike the taste of alcohol (Figure 16 and Table 13). Because one does not like the effect alcohol has on self or others is the

second most common reason for abstaining, followed by health reasons, because one was brought up not to drink, because one thinks alcohol is a waste of money, religious reasons and because one is an alcoholic or had an alcohol-related problem in the past.

Unfortunately, very little research has looked directly at the relationship between reasons for abstinence and various socio-demographic characteristics. However, the results reported above can be compared with alcohol research done in other areas. For example, the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that women are more likely than men to report that they abstain from alcohol use because they were brought up not to drink. This is consistent with previous studies that suggest that women drink less than men because of different socialization experiences (Parker et al. 1980; Ferrence 1980).

The results of the present survey also indicate that older people are more likely than younger people to report abstaining because they were brought up not to drink. This finding lends support to those scholars who suggest that the low rates of alcohol consumption currently observed among the elderly reflect the restrictive drinking norms of a generation that has now reached old age (Meyers et al. 1981). However, survey results also indicate that older abstainers are more likely than their younger counterparts to report that they do not drink because of health reasons. This finding seems to support an alternative explanation, which attributes the differences in the drinking practices of age cohorts to a variety of developmental factors (e.g., lower body mass, slower metabolic rate, etc.) associated with the aging process (Douglass et al. 1988). Clearly, this issue deserves further exploration.

The results of the present survey also indicate that men are much more likely than women to report that they do not currently consume alcohol because they had a drinking problem in the past. This is consistent with previous research that clearly demonstrates that men consume more alcohol than women and are much more likely to develop various alcohol-related problems (Ferrence 1980; Fillmore 1987).

It is interesting to note that the percentage of people who currently abstain from drinking because they had alcohol-related problems in the past is much higher than the percentage of people who report

having ever used an alcohol treatment program. This is consistent with previous research that suggests that many problem drinkers stop consuming alcohol on their own, without seeking professional help. This finding serves to highlight a controversial issue in the field of alcohol research — how to explain the stark contrast between the intractability of alcoholism reported in much clinical research and the high rate of natural recovery from alcohol problems found in most social surveys (Bucholz and Robins 1989).

Part Three: Reasons for Using Marijuana

Definitions



In addition to asking Canadians about why they do or do not drink, the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also looks into the motivation behind marijuana use. All respondents who used marijuana in the year preceding the survey were provided with six reasons for why people use marijuana or hashish and then asked to choose responses that reflected their own drug use in the 12 months preceding the survey (Q63 in Appendix B). The reasons provided were: a) to feel high; b) to relax; c) to forget worries; d) to be sociable; e) to feel less shy or inhibited; and f) to see what it was like.

General Findings



Unlike alcohol, people are more likely to report using marijuana to relax or to feel high than for social reasons (Figure 19 and Table 19). Two out of every three marijuana users (65.5%) report that they used the drug in order to relax. Six out of ten users (61.7%) report that they used marijuana in order to feel high. Half of the users (51.0%) report that they used the drug in order to see what it was like. Slightly less than half (47.4%) report that they used marijuana in order to be sociable. One in five (22.2%) report using marijuana in order to forget their worries, and 14.5% did so to feel less shy or inhibited.

Sex



Men (66.6%) are slightly more likely than women (63.2%) to report that they used marijuana in order to relax. Similarly, a slightly higher percentage of men (23.3%) than women (19.9%) report that they used the drug to forget their worries. However, women are more likely than men to report that they used marijuana to feel high (70.2% vs. 57.6%), to see what it was like (59.7% vs. 46.7%) and to feel less shy or inhibited (16.8% vs. 13.4%). An equal percentage of women (47.8%) and men (47.2%) report using marijuana to be sociable (Figure 19).

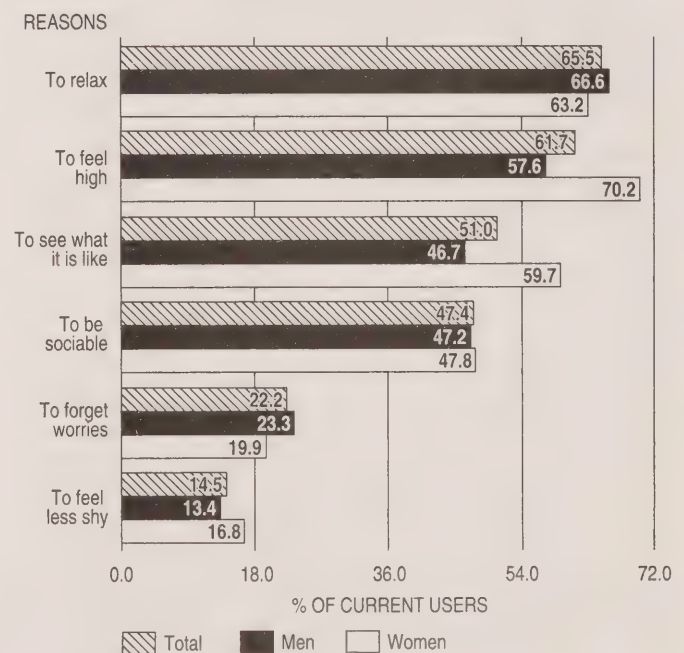
Age



The data suggest that the motivation for using marijuana to relax increases with age (Figure 20 and Table 19). For example, 71.7% of current users between 35 and 44 years of age and 72.7% of those between 25 and 34 report using marijuana to relax, compared to 64.8% of 20 to 24 year olds and 46.6% of 15 to 19 year olds. Using marijuana to be sociable also increases slightly with age. Over half of 35 to 44 year olds (51.1%) report using marijuana to be sociable, followed by 25 to 34 year olds (47.6%), 20 to 24 year olds (46.2%) and 15 to 19 year olds (43.3%).

The findings indicate that experimentation with marijuana tends to decline with age (Figure 20 and Table 19). For example, 69.0% of 15 to 19 year olds and 62.3% of 20 to 24 year olds report that they used marijuana in the year preceding the survey in order

Figure 19:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



to see what it was like, compared to 37.2% of 25 to 34 year olds and 42.9% of 35 to 44 year olds.

A clear relationship does not exist between age and other reasons for using marijuana. Using marijuana to feel high is relatively common among all age groups (Table 19). Those in the youngest age group are slightly more likely than older users to report using marijuana to forget worries or to feel less shy or inhibited (Figure 20 and Table 19).

Education



The data suggest that using marijuana to feel high increases with education (Figure 21 and Table 20). Seven out of ten users (72.2%) with a university degree report that they used marijuana to feel high, compared to 63.0% with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 58.3% who completed high school and 59.6% of those with less than a high-school education.

Using marijuana to relax also increases with education (Figure 21 and Table 20). Three out of four users (77.6%) with a university degree report using this drug in order to relax, compared to 64.3% with

some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 66.6% with a high-school diploma and 60.6% with less than a high-school education. Using marijuana to be sociable is also most prevalent among current users in the highest education category. Six out of ten users with a university degree (59.2%) report using marijuana to be sociable, compared to 49.5% of those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 37.2% with a high-school education and 50.6% with less than high school.

Experimenting with marijuana and using it to forget worries tend to decrease with education (Figure 21). Six out of ten users (61.5%) with less than a high-school education report that they used marijuana in the year preceding the survey in order to see what it was like, compared to 50.0% of those with a high-school diploma, 48.4% of those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree and 44.3% of those with a university degree. This association is probably confounded with age; younger people who have not finished their education are most likely to undergo initiation to marijuana use. More than one in four (28.3%) users with less than a high-school education report that they used marijuana in

Figure 20:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

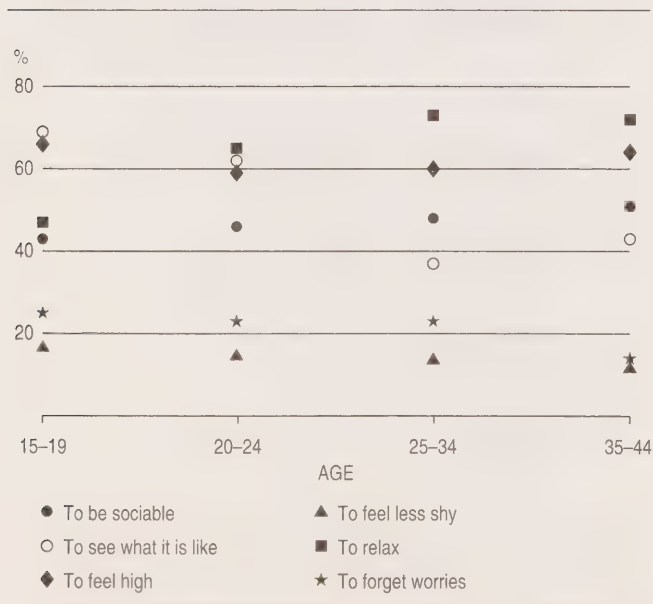
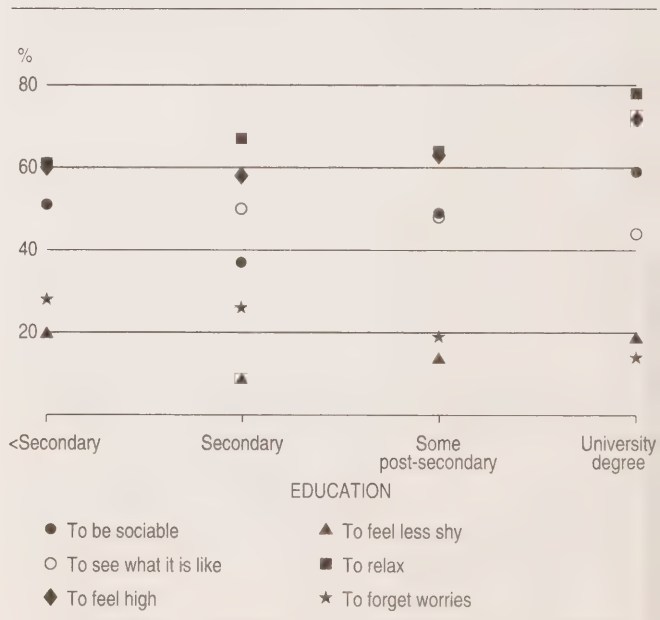


Figure 21:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



order to forget their worries, compared to 25.6% with a high-school diploma, 19.2% with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree and 14.0% with a university degree.

A clear relationship does not exist between education and using marijuana to feel less shy or inhibited (Figure 21). Those in the lowest (19.8%) and highest (18.5%) educational categories are most likely to report this reason for using marijuana, followed by those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree (13.7%) and those with a high-school diploma (9.0%).

Income



As with education, the data suggest that experimenting with marijuana decreases as income increases (Table 21). For example, 59.6% of current users with an annual household income of less than \$10,000 report that they used marijuana to see what it was like, compared to 56.4% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999, 47.5% of those in households earning between \$20,000 and \$39,999, 51.5% of those in households earning between \$40,000 and \$59,999, and 42.7% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more. Similar to the situation with education, these results are likely to entail an age confounder.

A distinct relationship does not exist between income and all other reasons for using marijuana (Table 21). For example, current users in the highest income category (56.5%) are the least likely to report that they used marijuana in order to relax. However, those in the second-highest (71.8%) and third-highest (72.9%) income categories are most likely to report that they use marijuana for this reason. Similarly, users in the second-highest income category (72.9%) are most likely to report that they use marijuana to feel high, followed by those in the second-lowest income category (63.6%).

Employment Status



The data suggest that current users who are looking for work (56.1%) are most likely to report that they used marijuana in order to be sociable, followed by managers/professionals (51.8%), other white-collar workers (51.8%), students (42.0%) and blue-collar

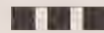
workers (41.2%). Using marijuana to relax is also most prevalent among those looking for work (Table 22). Nine out of ten users (88.6%) who are looking for work report that they used marijuana to relax, compared to 77.8% of managers/professionals, 70.4% of blue-collar workers, 66.7% of other white-collar workers and 48.5% of students.

Seven out of ten students (68.1%) report that they used marijuana in order to see what it was like, compared to 48.8% of those looking for work, 47.1% of blue-collar workers, 45.6% of managers/professionals and 40.3% of other white-collar workers (Table 22).

The majority of users in each occupational category with the exception of those looking for work report that they use marijuana in order to get high (Table 22).

The differences in the proportions of members from each occupational category who report using marijuana to forget worries or to feel less inhibited are small.

Marital Status



Interestingly, married users are more likely than those in other marital status categories to report that they use marijuana to feel high (Table 23). Seven out of ten married users (71.1%) report using marijuana for this reason, compared to 60.0% of those who are divorced, 59.4% of those who have never married and 48.5% of those who are separated. Married users are also most likely to report using marijuana in order to feel less shy or inhibited (19.5%), followed by those who have never married (13.6%) and those who are separated/divorced (percentage suppressed).

On the other hand, those who are separated (80.3%) are most likely to report using marijuana to relax, followed by married users (73.0%), divorced users (71.0%) and those who have never married (61.4%). One out of four divorced users (26.3%) report that they used marijuana to forget their worries, compared to 22.6% of those who are single (never married), 20.4% of those who are married and 19.3% of separated users. Those who are separated are slightly more likely to report that they used marijuana to be sociable (49.9%), followed closely by single users (47.8%), divorced users (46.1%) and those who are married (46.0%).

Experimentation with marijuana is most prevalent among single individuals (Table 23). Again, an age effect contributes considerably to this finding.

Language



English-speaking users are more likely than those who speak French to report each of the six reasons for using marijuana (Table 24). For example, seven out of ten Anglophones (68.4%) report using marijuana to feel high, compared to 38.2% of Francophones. Similarly, 51.2% of Anglophones report using marijuana to be sociable, compared to 33.9% of Francophones. However, similar proportions of English- and French-speaking users report using marijuana to relax (66.0% and 63.1%, respectively).

Frequency of Consumption



Individuals who use marijuana to facilitate mood change use the drug more frequently than those who do not. For example, 88.6% of those who use marijuana once a week or more often report that they use the substance in order to relax, compared to 75.1% of those who use it one to three times a month and 55.0% of those who use it less than once per month (Figure 22). Similarly, 71.9% of those who use marijuana once per week or more often report using the drug in order to feel high, compared to 69.4% of those who use it one to three times per month and 57.8% of those who use it less than once per month.

On the other hand, those who use marijuana infrequently are more likely to report that they use the drug for experimental purposes (Figure 22). For example, 62.7% of those who use marijuana less than once per month report using the drug in order to see what it was like, compared to 46.2% of those who use the drug one to three times per month and 39.6% who use the drug once per week or more often.

Discussion



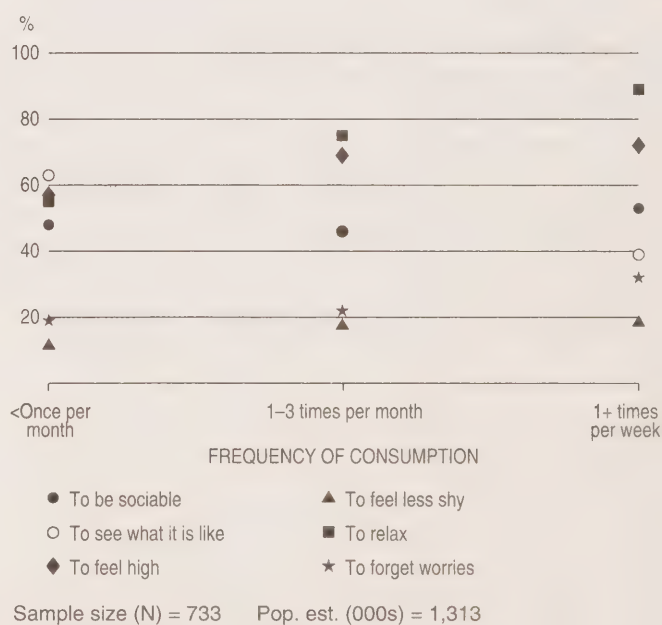
Compared to the literature on drinking motivation, research concerned with the reasons that people use illicit drugs is very limited. Furthermore, what data do exist are based on student samples and thus difficult to generalize to adult populations. Nevertheless,

this information, when combined with the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, may contribute to our knowledge of drug-using behaviour.

Unlike alcohol use, student populations often claim that they use drugs in order to “experiment” and “seek out new experiences.” Lanthier and Phillips (1971) examined the reasons for using various drugs among a random sample of 1,213 Canadian students in grades 7 through 13. According to the data, by far the most common reason to use drugs is to “see what it is like.” For example, 70% of the respondents who had tried marijuana reported they did so out of curiosity. By contrast, the next most common reason, “to experience something new and exciting,” is reported by only 18% of the students.

Curiosity was also the number one reason for using various illicit drugs among Spanish university students (Queipo et al. 1988). Other important reasons include searching for happiness and pleasure, and desiring new experiences. Similarly, Johnston and O'Malley's (1986) analysis of students in U.S. high schools found that over half of the respondents

Figure 22:
Reasons for using marijuana, by frequency of marijuana consumption in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



report using drugs in order "to experiment or see what it is like." The authors feel that this figure probably greatly underestimates the percentage for whom this was a contributing reason for initial use.

These findings are consistent with the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, which suggest that the majority of young respondents who used marijuana in the year preceding the survey did so "to see what it was like." However, this type of motivation is less common among older users.

Consistent with previous research, the present survey also identifies the importance of social reasons for using illicit drugs. Johnston and O'Malley (1986) report that the most commonly cited reason for using drugs among high-school students is "to have a good time with my friends." Some 65% of all high-school seniors give this as a reason that they have used drugs, illustrating the great importance of social expression and social facilitation in accounting for adolescent substance use. On the other hand, "to fit in with a group I like" is mentioned as a reason by only 13% of the respondents. This indicates that yielding to peer pressure either is not an important determinant of teenage drug use or, as the authors suggest, is something that students are unwilling to admit.

Previous studies also indicate that illicit drugs are frequently used to feel good or to facilitate mood change. Reilly and Homel (1987) examined the drug use motivations among 1,017 students, 15 to 18 years old, from Sydney, Australia. Each respondent had reported using at least one illegal drug in the previous month. Approximately 48% of the sample reported using drugs for reasons of psychological or social enjoyment. An additional 26% reported using drugs to cope with negative feelings, boredom or peer pressure. In contrast to the other studies discussed in this section, only 6% reported using drugs because of curiosity. Multivariate analysis, with drug use as the dependent variable and reasons for use as independent variables, revealed a relationship between type of drug and reasons for use. Amphetamines, cocaine, hallucinogens and designer drugs tend to be used for social or psychological enjoyment. Tranquillizers, barbiturates, opiates and inhalants tend to be used to cope with negative feelings and boredom or because of peer pressure.

Johnston and O'Malley's (1986) analysis of U.S. high-school students also reveals that illicit drugs are frequently used for the physiological effect that they produce. "To feel good or get high" is mentioned as a reason by 49% of all high-school seniors. "To relax or relieve tension" also ranks high, with 41% of the respondents saying they used substances for this reason in the last year.

The above findings are very similar to those reported by Segal et al. (1980). Their results indicate that sensation seeking and disinhibition are the best personality indicators of drug use among American college students. They maintain that marijuana users can be differentiated from their non-using peers by their "hang loose" ethic. Such a lifestyle is characterized by a search for many varied experiences and less concern for traditional cultural expectations of success.

As with alcohol use, the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that those individuals who use illicit drugs for "personal" reasons (e.g., to feel good, to forget worries, etc.) are more likely to be heavier users than those who do not.

In conclusion, the motivations discussed in this chapter are perhaps best regarded as justifications or rationalizations for drinking and drug use. In other words, the reasons that people give for performing any specific behaviour may not accurately represent their true motives. Nevertheless, these data provide us with some information regarding the social significance of drinking and drug use on the one hand and the use values of these substances on the other.

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Table 1:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
15-19	610	1,385	63.1	30.9	42.5	37.0	20.0	28.2
Male	307	726	62.8	31.8	45.5	43.9	22.9	29.2
Female	303	659	63.5	29.9	39.3	29.4	*16.8	27.0
20-24	925	1,787	73.7	33.2	42.3	41.2	13.4	19.2
Male	456	955	71.4	34.8	44.8	43.2	15.6	20.9
Female	469	832	76.3	31.4	39.5	39.0	*10.8	17.2
25-34	2,634	4,061	73.7	44.8	29.7	42.2	10.2	13.5
Male	1,261	2,130	73.0	44.1	34.7	46.7	11.8	14.1
Female	1,373	1,931	74.4	45.5	24.2	37.2	8.5	12.9
35-44	1,912	3,293	71.7	51.1	25.3	41.5	8.0	11.9
Male	967	1,683	70.3	48.9	30.6	47.1	10.6	13.8
Female	945	1,611	73.2	53.3	19.8	35.7	*5.4	9.8
45-54	1,013	2,065	70.9	55.2	27.0	38.5	8.7	8.8
Male	538	1,145	69.5	52.6	32.4	44.9	*9.6	*10.4
Female	475	920	72.8	58.4	20.3	30.5	*7.4	*6.8
55-64	787	1,683	72.2	52.8	20.4	36.2	*6.0	*7.3
Male	397	906	71.3	49.4	26.3	46.7	*9.6	*9.9
Female	390	777	73.1	56.7	*13.6	23.9	—	*4.2
65+	879	1,477	72.9	44.2	24.3	33.4	*7.1	*4.7
Male	406	766	73.1	40.8	31.7	41.8	*9.6	*5.5
Female	473	711	72.7	47.9	*16.3	24.4	*4.4	*3.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 2:

Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Canada	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
Nfld.	653	289	84.6	23.2	31.6	49.2	14.6	15.7
Male	351	164	81.6	23.4	42.1	57.9	18.2	17.1
Female	302	125	88.6	23.1	17.9	37.7	*10.0	*14.0
P.E.I.	537	63	82.5	27.8	31.1	47.0	13.7	17.7
Male	295	34	80.7	25.4	36.9	56.6	14.6	20.2
Female	242	29	84.8	30.8	24.2	35.5	*12.7	*14.6
N.S.	873	491	79.9	33.4	34.3	43.9	11.6	15.9
Male	428	261	76.7	31.3	44.0	49.0	13.6	18.0
Female	445	231	83.5	35.8	23.4	38.0	*9.5	13.6
N.B.	554	376	80.0	24.5	32.3	44.7	12.8	18.0
Male	304	208	79.3	20.6	40.8	54.6	16.0	20.7
Female	250	168	81.0	29.3	21.9	32.4	*8.8	*14.7
Que.	1,372	3,999	49.3	55.0	28.7	36.4	9.9	11.5
Male	666	2,140	46.5	51.5	32.3	43.0	13.0	13.1
Female	706	1,859	52.5	59.1	24.7	28.8	*6.4	9.7
Ont.	1,549	5,812	77.9	46.0	29.0	39.5	9.8	11.0
Male	750	3,053	77.5	45.1	32.3	44.3	11.5	12.1
Female	799	2,759	78.4	47.1	25.3	34.2	7.8	9.8
Man.	752	658	82.0	38.0	28.5	41.6	11.7	17.5
Male	355	346	83.5	35.2	35.8	48.0	13.7	19.5
Female	397	312	80.4	41.0	20.4	34.5	*9.5	15.4
Sask.	713	587	86.3	30.7	26.0	39.5	12.5	13.7
Male	342	308	87.4	28.2	31.7	46.4	14.3	14.5
Female	371	279	85.2	33.5	19.6	31.8	*10.6	12.8
Alta.	821	1,496	83.4	42.6	31.9	40.7	10.0	16.4
Male	404	795	84.0	43.0	41.4	46.5	14.3	20.2
Female	417	701	82.8	42.2	21.1	34.1	*5.0	12.1
B.C.	936	1,982	76.7	46.3	30.1	40.6	8.1	15.2
Male	437	1,002	76.3	48.8	35.6	46.6	7.7	14.8
Female	499	979	77.1	43.8	24.6	34.5	*8.4	15.5

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	68.5	36.1	30.2	40.0	13.0	14.6
Male	1,437	2,514	66.6	35.5	34.9	47.3	15.5	16.1
Female	1,168	1,920	70.9	37.0	24.2	30.4	9.6	12.6
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	73.5	42.0	27.6	40.0	9.9	13.1
Male	1,153	2,279	73.4	38.0	36.8	47.6	12.3	15.4
Female	1,321	2,325	73.5	45.9	18.5	32.4	7.5	10.8
Some post-secondary non-university degree	2,260	4,092	71.2	48.7	31.0	39.5	8.8	13.1
Male	1,008	2,025	69.1	49.0	33.8	43.7	11.1	14.4
Female	1,252	2,066	73.2	48.4	28.3	35.4	6.6	11.8
University degree	1,363	2,498	76.7	66.0	30.4	39.2	7.4	10.2
Male	712	1,440	76.3	64.4	31.8	42.3	*8.4	10.1
Female	651	1,058	77.1	68.1	28.5	35.0	*6.1	*10.2

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
<\$10,000	474	569	68.9	35.1	32.7	42.6	*14.9	*14.1
Male	179	246	65.4	34.7	41.8	50.7	*18.1	*17.9
Female	295	323	71.6	35.4	25.8	36.3	*12.4	*11.1
\$10,000-\$19,999	1,384	1,892	70.5	36.6	31.8	41.1	13.2	14.2
Male	608	869	68.7	37.4	38.9	50.5	17.2	15.6
Female	776	1,023	72.0	35.9	25.8	33.1	*9.9	13.1
\$20,000-\$39,999	2,773	4,477	71.1	44.4	28.4	40.4	10.6	12.2
Male	1,396	2,335	68.8	42.5	33.9	46.4	13.0	14.3
Female	1,377	2,142	73.7	46.6	22.4	33.8	8.0	9.8
\$40,000-\$59,999	1,859	3,788	72.1	48.8	30.2	41.4	7.9	12.7
Male	1,031	2,135	71.3	45.7	34.9	46.8	9.9	13.8
Female	828	1,653	73.2	52.9	24.1	34.5	*5.1	11.3
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	77.3	55.6	30.6	39.1	8.9	13.1
Male	711	1,818	77.0	53.7	34.4	43.2	10.3	13.9
Female	560	1,223	77.7	58.3	24.9	33.0	*6.8	12.0

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 5:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	75.5	61.0	29.0	40.0	7.5	10.3
Male	1,013	1,969	73.6	61.1	32.1	44.1	8.7	10.4
Female	1,006	1,555	77.8	60.9	25.0	34.8	*5.9	10.2
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	72.7	44.3	26.1	40.4	10.2	12.3
Male	648	1,277	71.1	42.5	31.5	43.9	11.8	14.0
Female	1,198	2,048	73.8	45.4	22.7	38.1	9.2	11.3
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	69.6	39.2	35.7	49.7	12.9	16.1
Male	1,572	2,830	69.8	39.5	36.1	51.2	13.3	16.9
Female	226	397	67.9	37.3	32.3	38.7	*9.9	*10.2
Looking for work	239	384	65.9	24.7	38.8	45.2	*21.3	*24.6
Male	137	223	68.2	*21.5	46.1	49.1	*22.6	*27.8
Female	102	160	62.8	*29.0	*28.7	*39.7	*19.5	*20.2
Student	811	1,751	66.5	35.1	40.4	35.2	16.5	23.4
Male	387	900	66.6	35.1	42.2	38.8	19.2	22.2
Female	424	851	66.5	35.0	38.6	31.4	*13.5	24.6
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	70.4	46.5	19.0	28.5	*3.7	9.5
Male	22	48	*48.9	—	*46.4	*57.0	—	—
Female	1,019	1,683	71.0	46.9	18.2	27.7	*3.4	8.8
Retired	868	1,528	76.3	46.7	24.5	32.4	*6.0	*4.0
Male	476	892	73.3	44.4	30.7	39.3	*7.3	*4.7
Female	392	636	80.5	50.0	*15.7	22.7	*4.2	—
Other	78	142	71.5	*40.3	*27.6	49.0	*19.3	—
Male	48	92	64.0	*30.7	*24.6	*50.0	—	—
Female	30	50	85.5	*58.4	*33.2	*47.3	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 6:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
Married	4,774	9,294	72.2	49.0	24.2	38.1	7.2	8.8
Male	2,442	4,981	71.4	47.1	29.0	45.4	9.0	9.8
Female	2,332	4,314	73.1	51.2	18.5	29.7	5.1	7.8
Separated/divorced	890	1,174	75.5	47.5	32.6	46.6	13.1	14.8
Male	366	519	72.1	48.6	40.0	47.0	*17.2	*16.6
Female	524	655	78.1	46.7	26.8	46.3	*10.0	*13.4
Widowed	486	609	74.2	46.1	23.3	29.4	*7.9	*6.1
Male	98	127	68.5	*45.7	*38.3	*47.4	—	—
Female	388	482	75.7	46.2	*19.4	24.6	*6.6	—
Never married	2,605	4,667	69.7	38.6	40.2	41.9	15.2	21.7
Male	1,424	2,680	69.4	38.4	43.3	45.1	17.3	22.7
Female	1,181	1,987	70.0	38.9	36.0	37.6	12.5	20.4

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 7:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
English	7,028	11,186	80.0	43.2	30.5	40.9	10.1	13.7
Male	3,436	5,773	79.4	42.5	36.0	46.5	12.0	15.1
Female	3,592	5,413	80.7	43.9	24.6	34.8	8.1	12.2
French	1,488	3,785	49.0	52.5	27.4	36.8	9.5	11.3
Male	740	2,011	46.4	48.4	31.9	44.0	13.2	13.7
Female	748	1,775	51.9	57.2	22.2	28.6	*5.4	8.6
Other	193	673	67.3	53.2	28.0	36.8	*11.3	*11.3
Male	133	478	70.2	51.1	28.2	40.9	*11.7	*9.2
Female	60	195	60.2	58.4	*27.4	*26.8	*10.4	*16.4

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by frequency of alcohol consumption and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Drinking frequency/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
Less than once per month	2,435	4,078	69.9	32.6	14.1	19.3	5.2	8.3
Male	728	1,395	68.6	27.6	15.3	21.5	*5.7	*8.6
Female	1,707	2,683	70.6	35.1	13.4	18.1	4.9	8.1
1-3 times per month	2,274	3,871	73.5	42.5	25.7	34.3	8.9	12.8
Male	992	1,803	70.3	39.4	26.4	37.2	9.1	12.2
Female	1,282	2,068	76.2	45.2	25.1	31.7	8.6	13.4
Once per week	1,658	2,935	75.7	48.1	30.8	42.3	9.5	14.7
Male	953	1,690	75.8	41.3	32.8	44.7	11.7	16.9
Female	705	1,245	75.5	57.2	28.1	39.0	*6.6	11.6
2-3 times per week	1,578	3,099	74.8	56.1	44.0	56.4	15.0	16.8
Male	1,078	2,130	74.1	52.4	46.5	56.4	16.7	17.1
Female	500	969	76.5	64.1	38.4	56.5	*11.3	16.0
4+ times per week	766	1,684	63.0	63.7	47.9	66.6	16.5	15.4
Male	562	1,252	62.9	61.6	50.0	67.4	17.3	16.4
Female	204	432	63.2	69.9	42.0	64.5	*14.2	*12.7

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of drinks/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	70.5	38.4	21.3	27.8	7.9	10.8
Male	1,716	3,159	69.9	35.2	24.9	31.9	9.2	12.2
Female	2,613	4,218	71.0	40.8	18.6	24.7	6.9	9.8
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	73.4	52.6	29.4	44.6	8.6	12.6
Male	1,639	3,281	72.1	50.3	31.1	48.6	9.3	13.2
Female	1,533	2,736	74.9	55.4	27.3	39.9	7.7	11.9
8-13 drinks	690	1,184	76.3	52.8	54.3	60.1	18.5	20.6
Male	502	892	74.7	50.4	54.7	59.5	20.8	18.5
Female	188	292	80.8	60.1	52.9	61.9	*11.5	*27.1
14+ drinks	569	1,174	66.8	49.3	56.5	66.4	22.3	20.7
Male	475	979	65.0	48.6	57.9	65.6	23.8	21.7
Female	94	195	75.8	52.7	49.4	70.6	*15.1	*16.0

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 10:**
Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Reasons/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
To be sociable	6,690	11,302	100.0	42.6	31.3	40.1	10.8	14.5
Male	3,277	5,876	100.0	42.1	35.7	45.8	13.2	15.7
Female	3,413	5,426	100.0	43.1	26.6	34.0	8.3	13.1
To enjoy meals	3,545	7,202	66.8	100.0	33.0	41.6	9.8	11.8
Male	1,671	3,688	67.2	100.0	39.7	48.5	12.7	14.0
Female	1,874	3,515	66.5	100.0	26.0	34.3	6.7	9.5
To feel good	2,611	4,648	76.2	51.2	100.0	64.9	23.3	28.5
Male	1,615	2,864	73.2	51.1	100.0	67.4	24.6	27.7
Female	996	1,784	81.0	51.2	100.0	60.9	21.4	29.9
To relax	3,628	6,226	72.9	48.1	48.4	100.0	21.6	21.7
Male	2,108	3,774	71.3	47.4	51.1	100.0	23.4	22.3
Female	1,520	2,452	75.3	49.1	44.3	100.0	19.0	20.9
To forget worries	979	1,579	77.5	44.6	68.7	85.2	100.0	41.9
Male	600	1,016	76.2	46.0	69.2	86.8	100.0	41.3
Female	379	564	79.7	42.0	67.7	82.5	100.0	42.9
To feel less inhibited	1,255	2,045	79.9	41.5	64.8	66.2	32.3	100.0
Male	726	1,196	77.1	43.0	66.3	70.4	35.1	100.0
Female	529	849	83.8	39.4	62.8	60.4	28.5	100.0

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:

Reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey, by number of times current drinkers had five or more drinks on a single occasion and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of times/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for drinking (%)					
			To be sociable	To enjoy meals	To feel good	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	8,760	15,752	71.8	45.7	29.5	39.5	10.0	13.0
Male	4,332	8,310	70.7	44.4	34.5	45.4	12.2	14.4
Female	4,428	7,441	72.9	47.2	24.0	32.9	7.6	11.4
0 times	4,111	7,770	69.0	49.3	16.2	27.6	4.7	6.6
Male	1,378	3,037	67.4	45.9	18.6	32.0	5.2	7.2
Female	2,733	4,733	70.1	51.5	14.7	24.7	4.3	6.3
1 time	796	1,437	69.2	45.2	31.4	39.8	* 8.3	13.7
Male	369	739	65.3	51.3	31.3	40.3	* 6.3	*13.2
Female	427	698	73.3	38.7	31.5	39.4	*10.4	*14.2
2-5 times	1,695	2,987	74.9	44.4	36.6	47.6	11.2	16.3
Male	949	1,813	71.4	46.6	36.2	48.8	11.4	13.7
Female	746	1,173	80.2	40.8	37.1	45.8	11.0	20.2
6+ times	2,029	3,371	77.9	39.8	53.4	60.1	21.9	24.8
Male	1,559	2,612	76.5	39.5	52.8	60.3	22.5	24.0
Female	470	760	82.5	40.6	55.6	59.6	20.0	27.5

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Percentage of current drinkers who experienced a problem in the year preceding the survey because of their own alcohol use, by reasons for drinking in the year preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Reasons/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Experienced a problem because of alcohol use
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5
To enjoy meals	3,545	7,202	10.4
Male	1,671	3,677	13.3
Female	1,874	3,514	7.7
To be sociable	6,690	11,302	12.4
Male	3,277	5,876	14.5
Female	3,413	5,426	10.1
To feel less shy	1,255	2,045	30.4
Male	726	1,196	33.3
Female	529	849	26.4
To feel good	2,611	4,648	23.7
Male	1,615	2,864	24.4
Female	996	1,784	22.5
To relax	3,628	6,226	18.5
Male	2,108	3,774	19.9
Female	1,520	2,452	16.3
To forget	979	1,579	39.8
Male	600	1,015	42.9
Female	379	564	34.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:
Reasons for abstaining in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for abstaining (%)							
			Not healthy	Do not like the taste	Do not like effect	Waste of money	Religious reasons	Upbringing	Had problem in past	Other
Total 15+	2,874	4,533	26.8	36.1	30.3	12.3	11.4	15.7	5.8	17.4
Male	959	1,609	30.1	22.7	34.3	15.5	11.6	11.1	12.2	21.0
Female	1,915	2,924	24.9	43.5	28.1	10.5	11.4	18.2	*2.3	15.3
15-34	777	1,336	22.5	38.5	33.8	11.9	10.8	14.8	*3.0	19.4
Male	273	490	24.5	26.9	40.8	*18.3	*11.3	*14.0	*5.8	23.6
Female	504	847	21.4	45.2	29.8	*8.2	*10.5	15.3	—	16.9
35-54	798	1,305	23.4	34.8	32.1	*9.5	13.1	10.9	*9.0	16.4
Male	320	492	24.2	*19.6	34.3	*10.5	*13.9	*6.1	*16.2	*21.6
Female	478	812	22.9	44.0	30.8	*8.9	*12.7	*13.8	*4.6	*13.3
55+	1,299	1,892	32.1	35.3	26.5	14.4	10.7	19.6	*5.7	16.6
Male	366	628	39.2	22.0	29.2	*17.1	*10.1	*12.8	*14.0	*18.6
Female	933	1,265	28.5	42.0	25.2	13.1	11.1	23.0	—	15.6

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 14:
Reasons for abstaining in the year preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for abstaining (%)							
			Not healthy	Do not like the taste	Do not like effect	Waste of money	Religious reasons	Upbringing	Had problem in past	Other
Total population	2,874	4,533	26.8	36.1	30.3	12.3	11.4	15.7	5.8	17.4
Male	959	1,609	30.1	22.7	34.3	15.5	11.6	11.1	12.2	21.0
Female	1,915	2,924	24.9	43.5	28.1	10.5	11.4	18.2	*2.3	15.3
Less than secondary	1,536	2,310	30.1	35.3	30.6	12.3	8.2	15.8	5.9	18.7
Male	525	835	35.0	22.3	34.3	15.1	*7.9	*11.0	*11.1	23.2
Female	1,011	1,475	27.3	42.7	28.6	10.8	*8.3	18.6	*2.9	16.1
Secondary completed	642	1,064	20.9	37.8	28.2	*10.5	12.8	17.0	*4.9	17.8
Male	197	318	*23.0	*18.6	*35.5	*14.3	*11.6	*12.6	*15.1	*24.9
Female	445	746	20.0	45.9	25.1	*8.9	*13.3	18.9	—	*14.8
Some post-secondary										
non-university degree	433	673	21.1	42.0	33.3	*13.2	*16.6	*12.9	*7.7	*14.3
Male	129	245	*17.5	*29.6	35.4	*16.4	*19.1	—	*14.9	*12.8
Female	304	428	*23.1	49.1	32.2	*11.3	*15.1	*14.8	—	*15.1
University degree	214	367	37.5	*29.5	35.7	*12.2	*20.1	*13.0	*7.0	*17.3
Male	92	166	*39.9	*22.7	*36.7	—	*22.6	—	—	*19.6
Female	122	201	*35.6	*35.1	*34.8	—	*18.0	*16.8	—	*15.4

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 15:

Reasons for abstaining in the year preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for abstaining (%)							Had problem in past	Other
			Not healthy	Do not like the taste	Do not like effect	Waste of money	Religious reasons	Upbring- ing			
Total population	2,874	4,533	26.8	36.1	30.3	12.3	11.4	15.7	5.8	17.4	
Male	959	1,609	30.1	22.7	34.3	15.5	11.6	11.1	12.2	21.0	
Female	1,915	2,924	24.9	43.5	28.1	10.5	11.4	18.2	*2.3	15.3	
<\$10,000	387	382	27.7	42.5	31.3	*10.9	*7.3	*16.2	—	*19.6	
Male	76	79	—	—	*40.3	—	—	—	—	—	
Female	311	303	*28.0	47.1	*29.0	*10.8	*8.6	*19.3	—	*17.7	
\$10,000—\$19,999	734	990	30.5	37.2	27.9	13.4	*10.3	16.6	*5.1	17.9	
Male	228	329	40.7	*20.4	34.4	*14.8	*8.6	*11.4	*13.2	*23.1	
Female	506	661	25.5	45.5	24.6	*12.7	*11.2	19.2	—	*15.3	
\$20,000—\$39,999	714	1,111	25.3	40.3	31.5	13.8	12.2	11.9	*9.8	16.7	
Male	287	474	28.3	24.4	35.1	*18.5	*12.4	*9.3	*18.7	*19.1	
Female	427	637	23.0	52.1	28.8	*10.2	*12.1	*13.8	—	*14.9	
\$40,000—\$59,999	275	592	24.0	33.5	33.0	*9.8	*19.8	*15.3	*7.2	*15.8	
Male	111	220	*31.7	*20.7	*34.1	—	*22.6	—	*13.7	*22.1	
Female	164	372	*19.4	41.1	32.3	*9.8	*18.1	*21.7	—	*12.0	
\$60,000+	124	268	*20.0	*33.2	38.8	*14.2	*18.0	*17.1	—	*11.5	
Male	71	154	*24.3	*17.3	45.6	—	*19.6	—	—	—	
Female	53	114	—	*54.6	*29.6	—	—	—	—	—	

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 16:

Reasons for abstaining in the year preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for abstaining (%)							
			Not healthy	Do not like the taste	Do not like effect	Waste of money	Religious reasons	Upbringing	Had problem in past	Other
Total population	2,874	4,533	26.8	36.1	30.3	12.3	11.4	15.7	5.8	17.4
Male	959	1,609	30.1	22.7	34.3	15.5	11.6	11.1	12.2	21.0
Female	1,915	2,924	24.9	43.5	28.1	10.5	11.4	18.2	*2.3	15.3
Manager/professional	286	467	28.2	38.2	31.0	*9.1	*21.1	*11.2	*8.1	*13.6
Male	115	201	*19.1	*22.8	*36.3	—	*19.7	—	*14.2	*21.1
Female	171	266	*35.2	49.9	*27.0	*10.0	*22.2	*15.8	—	—
Other white collar	410	718	19.3	38.6	30.4	*8.7	*13.0	*12.0	*6.8	*15.9
Male	122	233	*22.4	*20.2	43.0	*15.8	*18.0	*11.3	*11.8	*15.4
Female	288	485	*17.8	47.4	24.3	*5.3	*10.6	*12.3	—	*16.2
Blue collar	347	520	28.8	30.5	31.9	*11.7	*11.4	*11.0	*10.6	*23.2
Male	259	362	*27.0	*23.6	31.8	*12.5	*12.7	*8.3	*13.2	*27.6
Female	88	158	*33.0	*46.1	*32.1	—	—	*17.3	—	—
Looking for work	72	86	—	*40.0	*36.7	—	—	—	—	—
Male	41	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	31	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Student	248	514	*22.4	34.4	42.0	*15.7	*5.7	*15.6	—	24.2
Male	110	232	*21.9	*27.6	44.3	*18.0	—	*16.8	—	*26.2
Female	138	282	*22.8	40.1	40.0	*13.9	—	*14.5	—	*22.4
Keeping house	725	999	22.7	42.7	28.7	*10.6	*11.0	18.5	—	17.4
Male	19	10	—	—	—	—	0.6	—	—	—
Female	706	989	22.8	42.9	28.5	*10.5	*11.1	18.6	—	17.3
Retired	702	1,059	34.7	31.7	26.9	14.7	*10.1	20.8	*6.5	15.6
Male	247	422	44.3	*17.8	28.2	*16.7	*8.3	*14.3	*15.2	*19.0
Female	455	637	28.3	40.9	26.1	*13.3	*11.4	25.1	—	*13.4
Other	40	62	*56.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	28	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	12	19	*86.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 17:**Reasons for abstaining in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989**

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for abstaining (%)							
			Not healthy	Do not like the taste	Do not like effect	Waste of money	Religious reasons	Upbringing	Had problem in past	Other
Total population	2,874	4,533	26.8	36.1	30.3	12.3	11.4	15.7	5.8	17.4
Male	959	1,609	30.1	22.7	34.3	15.5	11.6	11.1	12.2	21.0
Female	1,915	2,924	24.9	43.5	28.1	10.5	11.4	18.2	*2.3	15.3
Married	1,518	2,538	26.9	35.1	27.8	11.0	13.7	15.1	7.1	15.4
Male	569	981	33.3	19.3	32.0	13.5	14.0	*10.5	15.5	19.1
Female	949	1,556	22.9	45.0	25.1	9.3	13.5	18.1	1.7	13.1
Separated/divorced	229	344	23.6	31.5	35.8	*9.6	*10.3	*8.9	*14.8	17.7
Male	75	106	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	154	238	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widowed	525	626	29.8	39.3	27.9	*12.2	*8.1	24.5	—	*16.8
Male	64	79	*35.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	461	546	29.0	41.1	27.5	*12.3	*8.9	26.9	—	*15.3
Never married	601	1,025	25.6	38.6	36.0	16.5	*8.4	14.1	—	22.5
Male	250	442	25.2	29.6	41.3	*22.6	*9.6	*15.3	—	*23.6
Female	351	583	25.8	45.4	32.0	*11.9	*7.4	*13.2	—	21.6

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 18:**Reasons for abstaining in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989**

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for abstaining (%)							
			Not healthy	Do not like the taste	Do not like effect	Waste of money	Religious reasons	Upbringing	Had problem in past	Other
Total population	2,874	4,533	26.8	36.1	30.3	12.3	11.4	15.7	5.8	17.4
Male	959	1,609	30.1	22.7	34.3	15.5	11.6	11.1	12.2	21.0
Female	1,915	2,924	24.9	43.5	28.1	10.5	11.4	18.2	*2.3	15.3
English	2,233	2,959	28.4	28.9	31.4	14.0	14.2	18.4	6.0	18.0
Male	776	1,114	29.1	19.3	36.0	16.9	13.4	12.2	11.0	20.8
Female	1,457	1,844	27.9	34.7	28.5	12.2	14.7	22.2	*3.0	16.4
French	478	1,161	22.3	53.5	32.2	*9.4	*2.6	*9.6	*7.4	17.8
Male	132	379	33.7	30.6	33.6	*13.4	—	*10.4	*19.2	*23.4
Female	346	782	16.8	64.6	31.5	*7.5	—	*9.2	—	15.1
Other	130	346	31.2	42.4	*19.5	—	*18.7	*14.2	—	*10.9
Male	40	103	*31.7	*33.3	—	—	*27.4	—	—	—
Female	90	242	*31.1	46.2	*18.6	—	*15.1	*18.8	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 19:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for using marijuana (%)					
			To be sociable	To see what it is like	To feel high	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total 15+	733	1,313	47.4	51.0	61.7	65.5	22.2	14.5
Male	483	887	47.2	46.7	57.6	66.6	23.3	*13.4
Female	250	426	47.8	59.7	70.2	63.2	*19.9	*16.8
15-19	105	230	43.3	69.0	65.6	46.6	*25.2	*17.0
Male	68	137	48.3	68.2	59.4	48.5	*27.9	*24.7
Female	37	93	*36.1	70.1	74.8	*43.7	—	—
20-24	181	374	46.2	62.3	59.4	64.8	*22.8	*15.2
Male	114	243	44.5	58.3	52.1	69.0	*23.7	—
Female	67	131	*49.2	69.8	72.8	57.1	*21.1	*27.1
25-34	313	492	47.6	37.2	60.4	72.7	*23.0	*13.7
Male	202	351	47.1	34.5	56.9	73.4	*23.7	*13.5
Female	111	141	48.9	*44.0	69.2	71.0	*21.3	—
35-44	114	177	51.1	42.9	63.8	71.7	—	—
Male	84	122	*47.2	*37.9	66.4	62.8	—	—
Female	30	55	*59.7	*53.9	*57.9	91.3	—	—
45-54	13	31	*63.5	—	*72.5	*72.5	—	—
Male	9	26	*60.4	—	*71.8	*71.9	—	—
Female	4	5	—	*95.9	—	—	—	—
55-64	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
65+	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 20:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for using marijuana (%)					
			To be sociable	To see what it is like	To feel high	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	733	1,313	47.4	51.0	61.7	65.5	22.2	14.5
Less than secondary	196	318	50.6	61.5	59.6	60.6	*28.3	*19.8
Secondary completed	202	362	37.2	50.0	58.3	66.6	*25.6	*9.0
Some post-secondary								
non-university degree	232	417	49.5	48.4	63.0	64.3	*19.2	*13.7
University degree	102	204	59.2	44.3	72.2	77.6	*14.0	*18.5

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 21:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for using marijuana (%)					
			To be sociable	To see what it is like	To feel high	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	733	1,313	47.4	51.0	61.7	65.5	22.2	14.5
<\$10,000	57	70	*46.6	*59.6	*53.6	66.6	*32.7	—
\$10,000–\$19,999	140	199	52.2	56.4	63.6	63.6	*20.6	*15.6
\$20,000–\$39,999	229	346	44.7	47.5	54.3	72.9	*21.6	*11.0
\$40,000–\$59,999	150	294	49.2	51.5	72.9	71.8	*30.5	*18.7
\$60,000+	91	250	50.1	42.7	60.5	56.5	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 22:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for using marijuana (%)					
			To be sociable	To see what it is like	To feel high	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	733	1,313	47.4	51.0	61.7	65.5	22.2	14.5
Manager/professional	137	228	51.8	45.6	66.7	77.8	*22.5	*12.4
Other white collar	176	309	51.8	40.3	66.2	66.7	*20.7	*14.3
Blue collar	192	326	41.2	47.1	59.7	70.4	*24.2	*14.2
Looking for work	41	58	*56.1	*48.8	*42.2	88.6	*38.0	—
Student	153	320	42.0	68.1	63.4	48.5	*18.1	*12.9
Keeping house	21	30	*82.2	*81.3	—	*68.1	—	—
Retired	5	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	6	15	*80.0	—	*85.1	*85.1	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 23:
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for using marijuana (%)					
			To be sociable	To see what it is like	To feel high	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	733	1,313	47.4	51.0	61.7	65.5	22.2	14.5
Married	175	312	46.0	36.5	71.1	73.0	20.4	*19.5
Separated	40	54	*49.9	*41.3	*48.5	80.3	19.3	—
Divorced	47	70	*46.1	—	*60.0	71.0	26.3	—
Widowed	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never married	468	876	47.8	58.5	59.4	61.4	22.6	*13.6

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 24:**
Reasons for using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Reasons for using marijuana (%)					
			To be sociable	To see what it is like	To feel high	To relax	To forget worries	To feel less inhibited
Total population	733	1,313	47.4	51.0	61.7	65.5	22.2	14.5
English	615	1,018	51.2	52.7	68.4	66.0	23.4	15.6
French	113	290	*33.9	45.6	38.2	63.1	*18.2	*10.2
Other	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Chapter 3:

Social Relationships and Patterns of Alcohol and Marijuana Use

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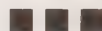
Highlights

Part One: Drinking Companions



- Canadians rarely drink alone. Approximately eight out of ten current drinkers (77%) never drink when they are alone or when others are not drinking. Only 10% drink alone a few times a month or more often.
- Friends are the most common drinking companions. One-half of all current drinkers (49%) consume alcohol with their friends a few times per month or more often. Only 7% report that they never drink with their friends.
- Nearly one-third (31%) of current drinkers drink with their spouses or partners a few times a month or more often.
- Family members are the third most common drinking companion. Twenty-five percent of current drinkers consume alcohol a few times per month or more often with family members or relatives, whereas 53% drink with them a few times per year. Only 20% never drink with family members.
- Co-workers are the least common drinking companions. Sixty-one percent of current alcohol users report that they never drink with the people with whom they work. Only 14% drink with their co-workers a few times per month or more often.
- Men, those who are better educated, those with high household incomes and heavy drinkers are most likely to report that they consume alcohol with a wide variety of network members.
- Men and older people are most likely to report that they drink when they are alone.
- Heavier drinkers are also more likely to engage in solitary drinking than light or moderate drinkers.

Part Two: Social Support for Drinking Behaviour



- The great majority of current drinkers (82%) received at least one invitation to drink in the year preceding the survey. Only 18% report that they did not receive an invitation from any of their network members (i.e., friends, family members, co-workers and spouse/partner). One out of ten drinkers (11%) report that they were invited to drink by all four types of network members, 28% received invitations from three types, 27% received invitations from two types and 17% received invitations to drink from only one type of network member.
- The data suggest that invitations to drink are most likely to come from friends. Three out of four current drinkers (72%) report that they were invited to drink by a friend. Relatives are the second most likely to provide a drinking invitation, followed by co-workers and spouses/partners.
- Men, middle-aged drinkers, those who are better educated and those with high household incomes are most likely to receive drinking invitations from a variety of network member types.
- Frequency and quantity of drinking increase with the increase in the variety of network member types extending invitations to drink.
- The variety of invitations to drink is also positively related to the incidence of heavy drinking behaviour.

Part Three: Social Pressure to Drink



- One out of eight current drinkers (13%) reported consuming an alcoholic beverage in order to please another person in the year preceding the survey.

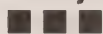
- Social pressure to drink is most likely to come from friends. About one in ten current drinkers (8%) report that they drank in order to please their friends, 4% drank to please their relatives, 3% drank to please their co-workers and 2% drank to please their spouse/partner.
- A higher percentage of younger than older Canadians report that they responded to social pressure to drink.
- Men (15%) are slightly more likely than women (12%) to report that they drank to please other people. A gender difference is particularly evident among young people.
- Canadians who have experienced social pressure to drink are heavier-than-average drinkers.

Part Four: Social Pressure to Refrain from Drinking



- One out of five current drinkers (19%) report that they refrained from drinking in order to please others.
- Social pressure not to drink is most likely to come from friends and relatives.
- Men (24%) are almost twice as likely as women (13%) to report that they refrained from drinking in order to please other people.
- Young Canadians are more likely than older Canadians to report that they responded to social pressure not to drink.
- Canadians who have experienced social pressure to refrain from drinking tend to be heavier-than-average drinkers. Current drinkers who report that they have refrained from drinking to please others consume an average of 6.2 drinks per week, compared to 3.1 drinks for those who have not experienced such social pressure.

Part Five: Social Relationships and Marijuana Use



- As with drinking, the findings clearly indicate that marijuana use is mainly a social activity. Seven out of ten users (68.3%) report that they do not use marijuana when they are alone.
- Almost all marijuana users (94.8%) report that they have used marijuana or hashish with their friends. One-third of current users (35.0%) report that they have used marijuana with their relatives, 28.9% have used the drug with their co-workers and 22.6% have used it with their spouse or partner.

Introduction

Research on alcohol and other drug use has traditionally focused on the analysis of socio-demographic (Adrian et al. 1988; National Institute on Drug Abuse 1988; Smart and Adlaf 1987) and social-psychological (Mehrabian and O'Reilly 1988; Cahalan 1987; Warheit and Auth 1984; Seeman and Anderson 1983) correlates. However, analysts have also recognized that social relationships play an important part in the development and maintenance of drinking and other drug-using behaviours.

This chapter examines how the social relationships of Canadians influence patterns of alcohol and marijuana use. Part One examines the frequency of drinking with different types of people, Part Two looks at invitations to drink from various network member types, Part Three focuses on overt social pressure to drink and Part Four looks at social pressure to refrain from drinking. The final section examines the companions of current marijuana users.

Part One: Drinking Companions

Definitions

All current drinkers (i.e., respondents who reported that they had consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey) were asked how often they drank either by themselves or with their friends, spouses, relatives or co-workers (Q27 in Appendix B).

General Findings

The findings clearly indicate that drinking is a predominantly social activity in Canada. In general, people rarely drink alone. Seventy-seven percent of all current drinkers report that they never drink alone or when others are not drinking. Only 10% drink alone a few times a month or more often (Table 1).

The data suggest that friends are the most common drinking companions (Figure 1 and Table 1). Approximately one-half of all current drinkers (49%) consume alcohol with their friends a few times per month or more often. By contrast, only 7% claim to never drink with their friends (Figure 2).

Forty-eight percent of current drinkers never drink with a spouse or partner — in part because many are not married (Figure 2). Nevertheless, spouses or partners emerge as the second most common drinking partners (Figure 1). Married current drinkers are more likely to report that they drink a few times per month or more often with their spouse (46%) than with their friends (42%) (see Table 6).

Family members other than spouses (inside and outside of the household) are the third most common drinking partners (Figure 1). Twenty-five percent of current drinkers consume alcohol a few times per month or more often with family members or relatives, whereas 53% drink with them a few times per year. Only 20% never drink with family members (Figure 2).

The results indicate that co-workers are not common drinking companions. Sixty-one percent

Figure 1:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

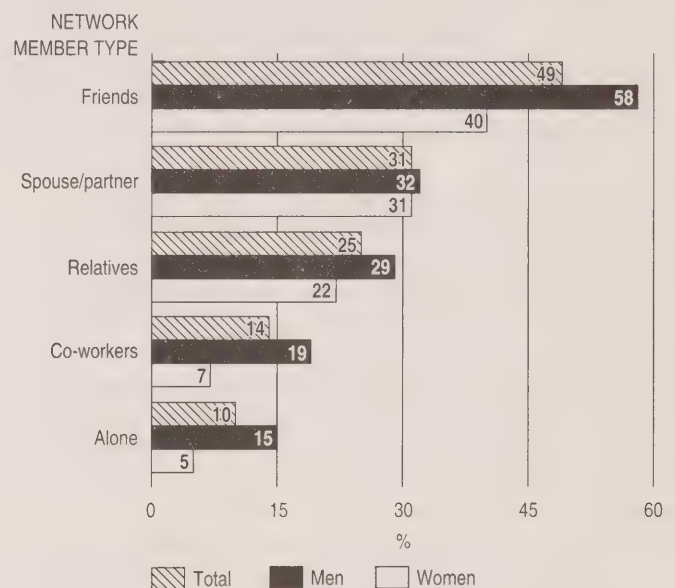
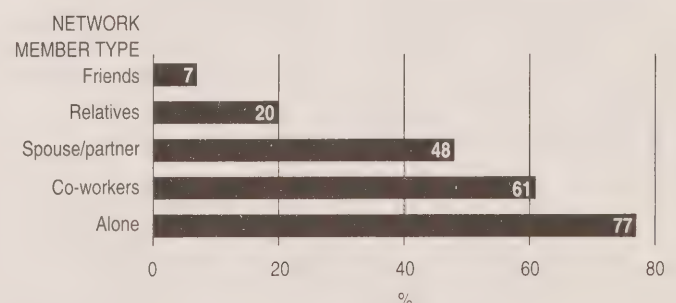


Figure 2:
Percentage of current drinkers who never consumed alcohol with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



of current alcohol users report that they never drink with the people with whom they work (Figure 2). Only 14% drink with their co-workers a few times per month or more often (Figure 1 and Table 1).

Sex



Women (31%) are as likely as men (32%) to report that they consume alcohol on a regular basis (a few times a month or more often) with their spouse or partner. However, men drink more frequently with all other types of drinking companions (Figure 1 and Table 2). For example, 58% of the men report that they drink with their friends at least a few times per month, compared to 40% of the women. Similarly, 29% of the men report drinking a few times a month or more often with their relatives, compared to 22% of the women. Finally, men (19%) are three times more likely than women (7%) to report that they drink regularly with their co-workers.

Men are also much more likely than women to report that they consume alcohol when they are alone or when others are not drinking (Figure 1). One out of seven male drinkers (15%) drink alone at least a few times per month, compared to one out of 20 female drinkers (5%). On the other hand, 87% of women report that they never drink when they are alone, compared to 68% of men (data not tabulated in report).

Age



The data suggest that there is a negative relationship between age and the frequency of drinking with friends (Table 2). For example, seven out of ten current drinkers (70%) between 20 and 24 years of age report that they drink a few times per month or more often with their friends, compared to only 29% of those who are 65 years of age and older.

Middle-aged adults (35 to 54 years of age) are the most likely to report that they drink frequently with their spouse or partner (Table 2). The comparatively lower percentage of younger and older people who drink with their spouse/partner probably reflects the relatively low percentage of persons in these age groups who have a spouse/partner.

There is very little difference between age groups in terms of the frequency of drinking with relatives (Table 2). However, a slightly higher percentage of

young people report that they never drink with their family members (Table 1). This may be due, in part, to underage drinkers consuming alcohol without the knowledge or permission of their parents.

In general, the percentage of Canadians who drink frequently with their co-workers declines with age (Table 2). For example, 24% of the current drinkers between 20 and 24 years of age report that they drink with their co-workers a few times a month or more often, compared to a very small (suppressed) percentage of those 65 years of age and older. The fact that older Canadians rarely drink with their co-workers is probably because many of them have retired and are no longer in contact with the people with whom they used to work.

Drinking alone or when others are not drinking tends to increase with age (Table 2). For example, 15% of current drinkers 65 years of age and older report drinking by themselves a few times per month or more often, compared to 9% of 20 to 24 year olds and 6% of 15 to 19 year olds.

Education



The frequency of drinking with each type of drinking companion tends to increase with education (Table 3). For example, 43% of those with a university degree report that they drink with their spouse/partner a few times per month or more often, compared to 31% of those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 33% of those who completed high school and 25% of those with less than a secondary school education. Those with less than a secondary school education are least likely to drink with their friends.

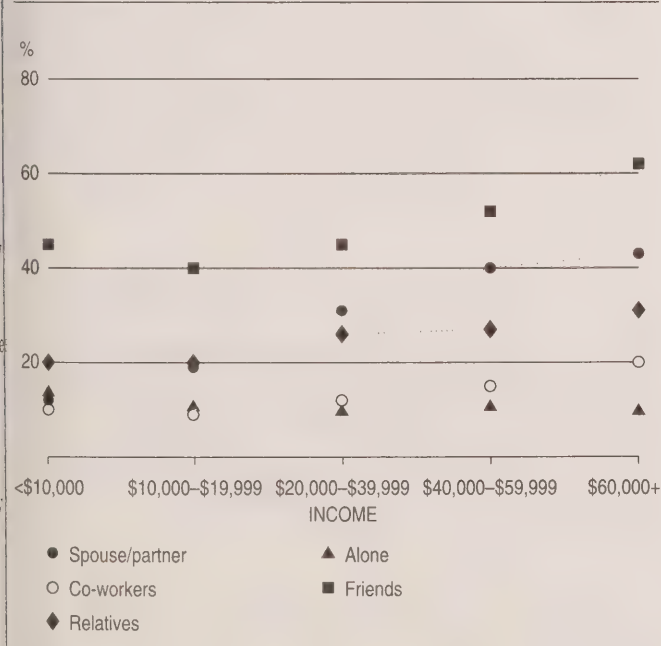
Current drinkers with a university degree (18%) are twice as likely as those with less than a secondary school education (9%) to report drinking with their co-workers a few times per month or more often (Table 3). However, those with a university degree are only slightly more likely than those in other educational categories to drink frequently with their relatives.

Education is not strongly related to the frequency of solitary drinking. Although drinking alone is most common among those in the highest and lowest educational categories, differences between groups are quite small (less than three percentage points).

Income

As with education, the frequency of drinking with each type of network member tends to increase with income (Figure 3 and Table 4). For example, 43% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more per year report that they drink with their spouse/partner at least a few times per month, compared to 19% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 12% with household incomes below \$10,000. Similarly, 62% of those with household incomes of \$60,000 or more per year report that they drink with their friends at least a few times per month, compared to 40% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 45% of those with household incomes less than \$10,000. Furthermore, 20% of those with household incomes of \$60,000 or more consume alcohol a few times per month or more often with their co-workers, compared to only 9% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 per year.

Figure 3:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



As with education, income is not strongly related to the frequency of drinking alone. Although solitary alcohol consumption is most common among those in the lowest income category, differences between groups are quite small (less than four percentage points).

Employment Status

Current drinkers in managerial or professional occupations drink more frequently with their spouse or partner than those in other occupational categories (Table 5). For example, 41% of managers/professionals report that they drink with their spouse/partner a few times per month or more often, followed by homemakers (38%), blue-collar workers (33%), other white-collar workers (33%), retired persons (29%), those looking for work (22%) and students (6%).

Blue-collar workers drink more frequently with their relatives than those in other occupational categories (Table 5). For example, 32% of blue-collar workers report that they drink a few times per month or more often with other family members, followed by managers/professionals (30%), other white-collar workers (24%), retired persons (24%), homemakers (19%), students (19%) and those who are looking for work (18%).

Students drink more frequently with their friends than current drinkers in other occupational categories (Table 5). For example, 62% of students report that they drink with their friends a few times per month or more often, followed closely by blue-collar workers (59%), managers/professionals (54%), those who are looking for work (52%), other white-collar workers (48%), retired persons (32%) and homemakers (29%).

Blue-collar workers drink more frequently with their co-workers than those in other occupational categories (Table 5).

Retired persons drink by themselves more often than those in other occupational categories (Table 5).

Marital Status

Almost half of married current drinkers (46%) report that they drink with their spouse or partner a few

times per month or more often (Table 6). Fourteen percent of the current drinkers who are separated or divorced and 10% of those who have never been married report that they drink with their partner at least a few times per month.

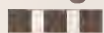
The data suggest that marital status does not have a strong effect on how frequently Canadians drink with their relatives (Table 6). Married and single (never married) drinkers (26% each) are most likely to report that they drink a few times per month or more often with their relatives, followed closely by those who are widowed (25%) and those who are either separated or divorced (21%).

Single Canadians drink with their friends more frequently than those who are married, separated/divorced or widowed (Table 6). For example, 66% of single drinkers report that they drink with their friends a few times per month or more often, compared to 52% of those who are separated/divorced, 42% of those who are married and 29% of those who are widowed.

Single Canadians also drink with their co-workers more often than those in other marital status categories (Table 6). One out of five single drinkers (22%) report that they consume alcohol a few times per month or more often with their co-workers, compared to 16% of those who are separated/divorced and 10% of those who are married.

Widowed individuals are more likely to drink alone than those in other marital categories (Table 6). For example, 14% of widowed drinkers report that they consume alcohol by themselves a few times per month or more often, followed by those who are separated/divorced (13%), single (11%) and married (9%).

Language



An equal percentage of English- and French-speaking drinkers (32%) report that they consume alcohol with their spouse or partner at least a few times per month, followed by those who speak another language at home (24%) (Table 7).

Francophones and Anglophones drink with their relatives more often than those in other language groups (Table 7). Twenty-eight percent of French-

speaking drinkers report that they consume alcohol with their relatives a few times per month or more often, followed by Anglophones (25%) and those who speak another language (19%).

Anglophones and Francophones drink with their friends slightly more often than those in other language categories (Table 7). For example, 51% of English-speaking drinkers report that they consume alcohol with their friends a few times per month or more often, compared to 47% of Francophones and 34% of those who speak another language.

Anglophones and Francophones are more likely to report that they drink frequently with their co-workers than are those in other language groups (Table 7). Fourteen percent of English-speaking current drinkers report that they consume alcohol a few times per month or more often with their co-workers, compared to 13% of Francophones and 8% of those who speak another language.

There is little difference between language group in terms of the frequency of drinking alone (Table 7). For example, 11% of English-speaking drinkers report that they drink alone a few times per month or more often, compared to 9% of Francophones and 10% of those who speak another language.

Level of Consumption



Regardless of the type of drinking companion, level of alcohol consumption is positively related to the frequency of drinking, with one exception: the differences between consumption categories are small when it comes to the percentage drinking with a spouse or partner.

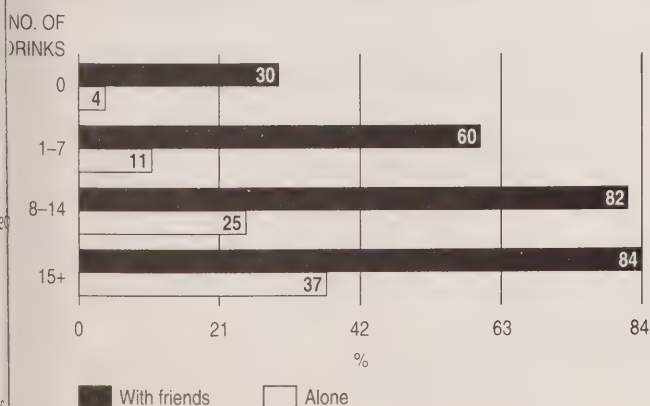
Heavier drinkers are especially apt to drink in the company of friends (Figure 4 and Table 8). For example, 84% of those who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report that they drink a few times per month or more often with their friends, compared to 82% of those who consume between eight and 14 drinks, 60% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks and 30% of those who did not have a drink.

Heavier drinkers are also more likely to drink with their co-workers (Table 8). For example, 37% of

those who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report that they drink a few times per month or more often with their co-workers, compared to 32% of those who consumed between eight and 14 drinks, 15% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks and 6% of those who did not have a drink.

Heavier drinkers are also much more likely to engage in solitary drinking than are light or moderate drinkers (Figure 4 and Table 8). For example, 37% of those who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report that they drink by themselves a few times per month or more often, compared to 25% of those who consumed between eight and 14 drinks, 11% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks and only 4% of those who did not have any drinks in the preceding week.

Figure 4:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with friends or alone in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Part Two: Social Support for Drinking Behaviour

Definitions

In this report, social support for drinking behaviour refers to invitations to drink received by Canadians from different types of network members. An invitation to drink can be seen as social encouragement or subtle social pressure to consume alcohol. At the very least, an invitation to drink is an indicator that the person who extended the invitation accepts drinking behaviour.

All current drinkers were asked whether or not they had been invited to drink in the 12 months preceding the survey by: a) their spouse or partner; b) a family member or relative; c) a friend; and d) a co-worker (Q29 in Appendix B). Responses to these four questions were then collapsed into a single variable ranging from 0 (nobody invited the respondent to have a drink) to 4 (each type of network member invited the respondent to drink). This measure reflects the number of social definitions favourable to drinking behaviour that each respondent receives from different types of network members.

General Findings

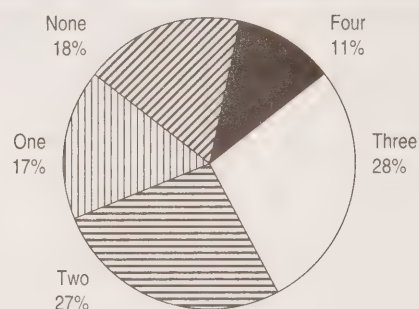
The great majority of current drinkers (82%) received invitations to drink in the year preceding the survey from at least one category of associates (Figure 5). Only 18% report that they did not receive an invitation from any members of their social network. One out of ten drinkers (11%) report that they were invited to drink by all four types of network members, 28% received invitations from three types, 27% received invitations from two types and 17% received invitations to drink from only one type of network member.

The data suggest that invitations to drink are most likely to come from friends (Figure 6 and Table 9). Approximately three out of four current drinkers (72%) report that they were invited to drink by a friend in the year preceding the survey. Relatives are the second most likely to have provided a drinking invitation (58%), followed by co-workers (34%) and spouses/partners (31%).

Sex

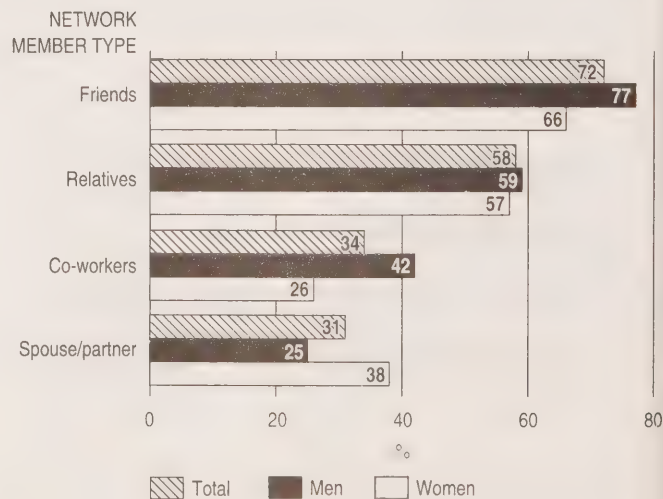
Women (38%) are more likely than men (25%) to report that they were invited to drink by their spouse or partner (Figure 6 and Table 9). A similar

Figure 5:
Number of different network member types offering invitations to drink in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Figure 6:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



percentage of men (59%) and women (57%) report that they were invited to drink by other family members. However, men are more likely than women to report drinking invitations from friends (77% vs. 66%) and co-workers (42% vs. 26%).

Age



Current drinkers in the youngest and oldest age categories are least likely to report that they were invited to drink by their spouse or partner (Table 9). This finding stems from the fact that many young people do not have a permanent partner, and a high proportion of older people are either widowed or separated/divorced. Drinkers in the 35 to 44 year old category are most likely to receive drinking invitations from their spouse or partner (43%), followed by 25 to 34 year olds (38%), 45 to 54 year olds (36%), 55 to 64 year olds (31%), those who are 65 years of age and older (24%), 20 to 24 year olds (17%) and 15 to 19 year olds (3%).

There is very little difference between age groups in terms of invitations to drink from relatives or family members (Table 9). Current drinkers in the 20 to 34 year old category are most likely to report that they were invited to drink by a family member (61%), followed by 15 to 19 year olds (60%), 35 to 44 year olds (58%), 45 to 54 year olds (58%), 55 to 64 year olds (53%) and those 65 years of age and older (51%).

In general, younger people are more likely than older people to receive invitations to drink from friends (Table 9). For example, 83% of 15 to 24 year olds report that they were invited to drink by friends in the year preceding the survey, compared to 56% of 55 to 64 year olds and 51% of those 65 years of age and older.

Drinkers in the youngest and oldest age categories are least likely to report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers (Table 9). This finding reflects the fact that many teenagers do not have a steady job and many older people have retired. Drinkers in the 20 to 24 year old category are most likely to report that they were invited to drink by co-workers (46%), followed by 25 to 34 year olds (44%), 35 to 44 year olds (41%), 45 to 54 year olds (36%), 15 to 19 year olds (26%), 55 to 64 year olds (16%) and those who are 65 years of age and older (5%).

The data suggest that current drinkers in the youngest and oldest age categories receive invitations to drink from fewer types of network members (Figure 7).

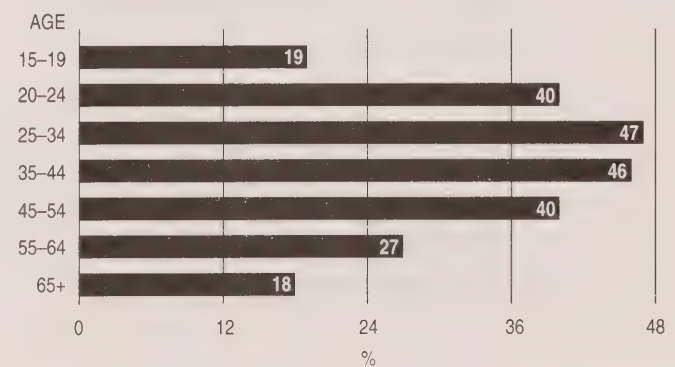
Education



Current drinkers with less than a high-school education are least likely to receive a drinking invitation from their spouse or partner (Table 10). There is little difference between drinkers from all other educational categories. Four out of ten drinkers (39%) with a university degree report that they were invited to drink by their spouse or partner, followed closely by those who have completed secondary school (35%), those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree (32%) and those who have not completed high school (23%).

Education does not seem to be related to whether or not a person will be invited to drink by other family members (Table 10). Six out of ten current drinkers (60%) with either a university degree or some post-secondary school education and non-university degree report that they were invited to drink by a relative, followed closely by those who have completed secondary school (59%) and those with less than a secondary school education (55%).

Figure 7:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by three or more network member types in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



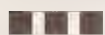
Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

The data suggest that there is a slight positive relationship between education and drinking invitations from friends, but those with less than a secondary school education were substantially less likely to receive such invitations (Table 10).

There is a strong positive relationship between education and drinking invitations from co-workers (Table 10). For example, 46% of drinkers with a university degree report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, compared to 41% of those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 34% of those with a high-school diploma and 23% of those with less than a secondary school education.

The data suggest that, in general, people with more formal education are more likely to receive drinking invitations from a wide variety of network members (Figure 8). For example, 49% of the current drinkers with a university degree report that they were invited to drink by three or more types of network members, compared to 41% with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, 40% with a high-school diploma and 27% with less than a secondary school education.

Income



The data suggest that there is a positive relationship between household income and drinking invitations from each type of network member (Table 11). For

example, 40% of those whose households earn \$60,000 a year or more report that they were invited to drink by their spouse or partner, compared to 21% of those who live in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 10% with household incomes less than \$10,000. The rank order for invitations from friends is the same. Seventy-nine percent of those in households earning \$60,000 or more report that they were invited to drink by their friends, compared to 64% of those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 69% of those in households earning less than \$10,000.

Current drinkers in the higher income categories are especially apt to receive drinking invitations from co-workers (Table 11). For example, 48% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, compared to 25% of those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and only 20% of those in households earning less than \$10,000.

However, those in the higher income categories are only slightly more likely than other Canadians to receive drinking invitations from other family members (Table 11). For example, 61% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more report that they were invited to drink by relatives, compared to 56% of those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 54% of those with household incomes below \$10,000.

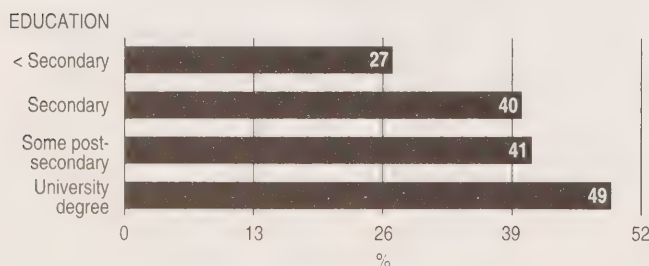
As with education, those in the higher income categories are more likely to receive drinking invitations from a wide variety of network members (Figure 9). For example, 49% of the current drinkers in households earning \$60,000 or more report that they were invited to drink by three or more network member types, compared to 37% with household incomes between \$20,000 and \$39,999, 28% with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 18% in households earning less than \$10,000.

Employment Status



There is little difference between occupational groups in terms of invitations to drink from relatives (Table 12). Blue-collar workers (61%) and managers/professionals (61%) are most likely to report that they were invited to drink by relatives, followed closely by those

Figure 8:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by three or more network member types in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

who are looking for work (60%), students (59%), other white-collar workers (58%), homemakers (55%) and those who are retired (53%).

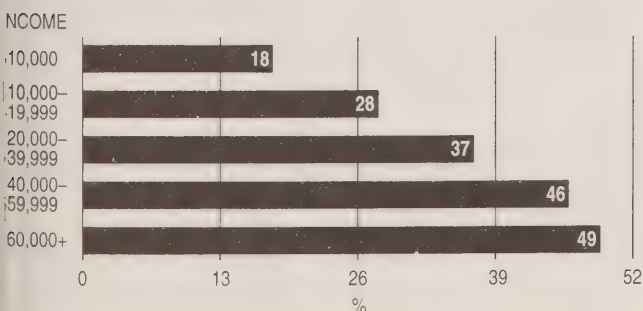
Homemakers (47%) are most likely to report that they were invited to drink by their spouse or partner, followed by managers/professionals (40%), other white-collar workers (36%), blue-collar workers (28%), retired persons (26%), those looking for work (22%) and students (6%).

Students and those in managerial/professional positions are most likely to receive drinking invitations from friends (Table 12). For example, 85% of students report that they were invited to drink by their friends, followed by managers/professionals (78%), blue-collar workers (75%), other white-collar workers (75%), those looking for work (71%), homemakers (56%) and those who are retired (54%).

Those current drinkers who are in managerial/professional positions are the most likely to receive drinking invitations from co-workers (Table 12): 52% of managers/professionals report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, compared to 44% of blue-collar workers, 42% of other white-collar workers, 31% of those looking for work and 27% of students.

Furthermore, current drinkers in managerial/professional occupations are the most likely to receive

Figure 9:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by three or more network member types in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

drinking invitations from a wider variety of social network members (Figure 10). For example, over half (51%) of the managers/professionals report that they were invited to drink by three or more network member types, compared to other white-collar workers (44%), blue-collar workers (43%), those looking for work (31%), homemakers (31%), students (21%) and those who are retired (18%).

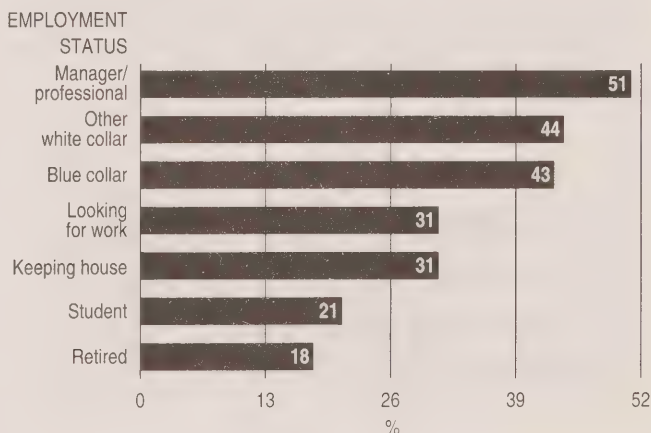
Marital Status



Not surprisingly, married drinkers are most likely to report that they received a drinking invitation from their spouse/partner (Table 13). Approximately one-half (47%) of married drinkers report that they were invited to drink by their spouse/partner, compared to 14% of those who are separated or divorced and 9% of those who have never married.

Marital status does not seem to influence whether or not people receive drinking invitations from other family members (Table 13). For example, 59% of both married and single (never married) drinkers report that they were invited to drink by a relative, as do 56% of those who are either widowed or separated/divorced.

Figure 10:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by three or more network member types in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



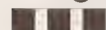
Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Single drinkers are the most likely to receive drinking invitations from their friends (Table 13). For example, 83% of single drinkers report that they were invited to drink by their friends, compared to 77% of those who are separated/divorced, 68% of those who are married and 52% of those who are widowed.

The data suggest that those who are separated or divorced are most likely to receive drinking invitations from their co-workers (Table 13). For example, 45% of drinkers who are separated/divorced report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, followed by those who are single (42%), married (31%) and widowed (9%).

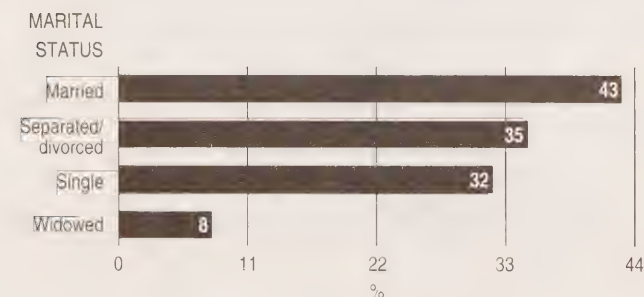
Married drinkers are the most likely to receive drinking invitations from a wide variety of network members (Figure 11). For example, 43% of married drinkers report that they were invited to drink by three or more types of network members, followed by those who are separated/divorced (35%), single (32%) and widowed (8%).

Language



Whatever the network member type, Anglophones are more likely to receive drinking invitations than Francophones or those who speak another language at home (Table 14). For example, one-third of English-speaking drinkers (35%) report that they were invited

Figure 11:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by three or more network member types in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

to drink by their spouse/partner, compared to 22% of Francophones and 19% of those who speak another language. Similarly, two-thirds of English-speaking drinkers (63%) report that they were invited to drink by a relative, compared to 46% of Francophones and 46% of those who speak another language.

Approximately eight out of ten English-speaking drinkers (79%) report that they were invited to drink by their friends, compared to 55% of Francophones and 68% of those who speak another language. Finally, 38% of English-speaking drinkers report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, compared to 27% of Francophones and 31% of those who speak another language (Table 14).

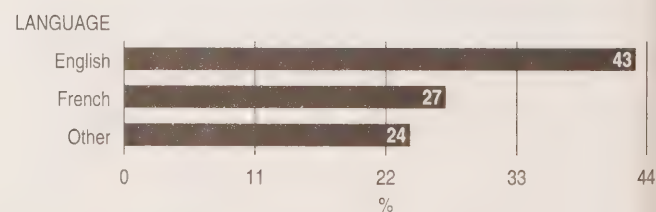
Anglophone current drinkers are also most likely to receive drinking invitations from a wider variety of network members (Figure 12). For example, 43% of Anglophones report that they were invited to drink by three or more types of network members, compared to 27% of Francophones and 24% of those who speak another language.

Level of Consumption



The data suggest that there is a positive relationship between invitations to drink from each type of relationship and frequency of alcohol consumption (Table 15). For example, 40% of those who drink at least four times a week report that they were invited to drink by their spouse or partner, compared to 23% of those who drink less than once per month. Similarly, 62% of

Figure 12:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to drink by three or more network member types in the year preceding the survey, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

those who drink four times a week or more often report that they were invited to drink by a relative, compared to 52% of those who drink less than once per month. Furthermore, 77% of those who drink at least four times a week report that they were invited to drink by their friends, compared to 58% of those who drink less than once per month. Finally, 41% of those who drink at least four times a week report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, compared to 21% of those who drink less than once per month.

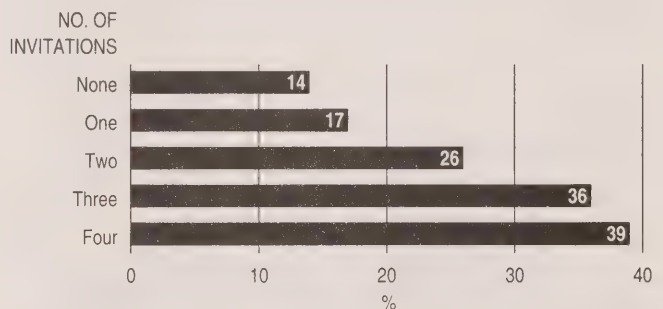
There is also a positive relationship between invitations to drink from each type of relationship and average weekly consumption (Table 16). For example, 86% of those who consumed eight or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report that they were invited to drink by their friends, compared to 64% of those who did not have a drink. Similarly, 52% of those who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report that they were invited to drink by their co-workers, compared to 26% of those who did not have a drink.

The data clearly indicate that those with a greater variety of invitations to drink consume more alcohol. For example, 39% of those who received drinking invitations from all four relationship types consume alcohol once per week or more often, compared to 36% of those who received invitations from three types of network members, 26% of those who received invitations from two types of network members, 17% of those who received invitations from only one type of network member and 14% of those who did not receive an invitation from any network member (Figure 13). Similarly, 11% of those who received drinking invitations from all four types of network members consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 9% of those who received invitations from three types of network members, 7% of those who received invitations from two types of network members, 6% of those who received invitations from only one type of network member and 5% of those who did not receive a drinking invitation (Figure 14).

The number of types of network members offering invitations to drink is also positively related to the incidence of heavy drinking behaviour (Figure 15). For example, 70% of those who received a drinking invitation from all four types of network members

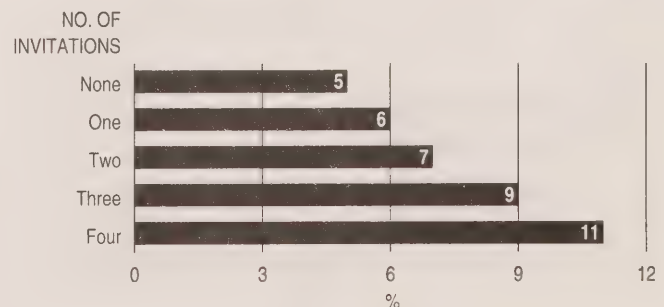
report that they consumed five or more drinks on at least one occasion in the year preceding the survey, compared to 60% of those who received invitations from three types of network members, 52% of those who received invitations from two types of network members, 42% of those who received invitations from only one type of network member and 29% of those who did not receive a drinking invitation.

Figure 13:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol once per week or more often in the year preceding the survey, by number of invitations to drink, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

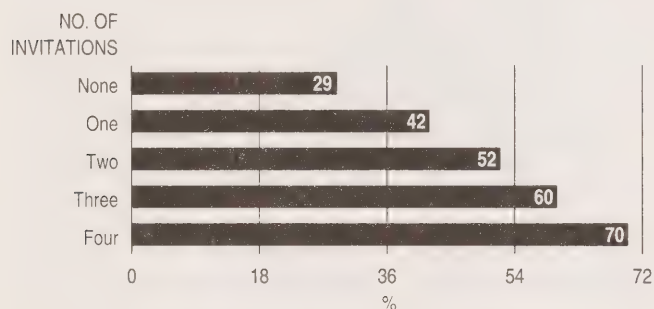
Figure 14:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, by number of invitations to drink, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

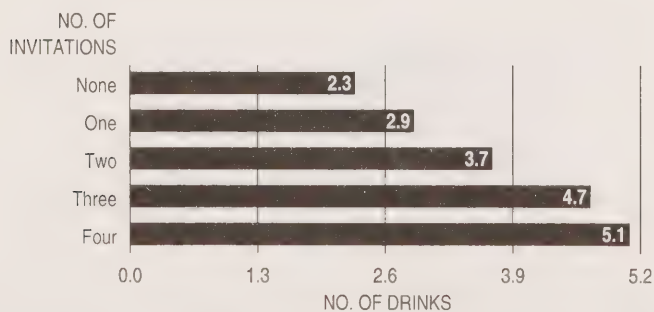
Overall, Canadians who were invited to drink by at least one type of network member consume an average of 4.2 drinks per week, compared to 2.3 drinks for those who did not receive a drinking invitation (Figure 16). Furthermore, those who received an invitation from all four types of network members consume an average of 5.1 drinks per week, followed by those who received invitations from three types (4.7 drinks), those who received invitations from two types (3.7 drinks) and those who received invitations from only one type (2.9 drinks).

Figure 15:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, by number of invitations to drink, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Figure 16:
Average number of drinks consumed per week, by number of invitations to drink, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Part Three: Social Pressure to Drink

Definitions

Although drinking invitations can be seen as forms of social support or encouragement of drinking behaviour, the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also inquired about more direct forms of social pressure. Respondents were asked whether or not they had, in the 12 months preceding the survey, taken a drink to please anyone although they did not feel like drinking (Q30 in Appendix B).

General Findings

One out of eight Canadian drinkers (13%) reported consuming an alcoholic beverage in the 12 months preceding the survey to please another person. In general, young Canadians are more likely than older Canadians to report that they responded to such social pressure (Figure 17 and Table 17). For example, 19% of 15 to 19 year olds report that they drank to please others, compared to 10% of those who are 55 years of age and older.

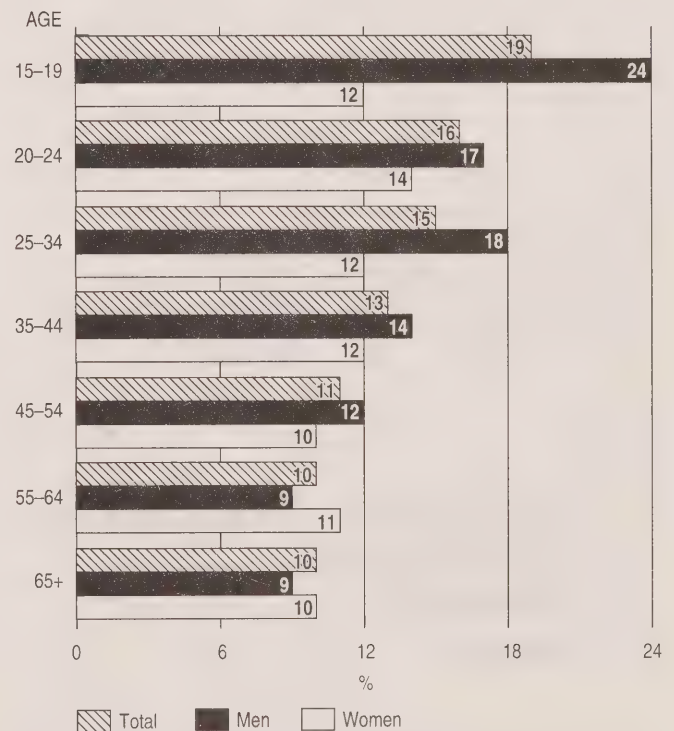
Overall, men (15%) are slightly more likely than women (12%) to report that they drank to please other people. This gender difference is particularly evident among young people (Figure 17 and Table 17). For example, 15 to 19 year old male drinkers (24%) are twice as likely to report that they gave in to social pressure to drink as same-age females (12%). However, in the oldest age category (65 and older), a similar percentage of women (10%) and men (9%) report that they drank to please others.

The data also indicate that age differences in responding to social pressure are much more prevalent among men than women. For example, one out of four males (24%) in the 15 to 19 year old category report that they drank to please others, compared to 10% of those who are 65 years of age and older — a difference of 15 percentage points. By contrast, 12% of 15 to 19 year old female drinkers report that they drank to please others, compared to 10% of those who are 65 years of age and older — a difference of only two percentage points.

The data suggest that Canadians who have experienced social pressure to drink tend to be heavier-than-average drinkers. Overall, those who have consumed alcohol to please others consume an average of 4.6 drinks per week, compared to 3.5 drinks for those who have not consumed alcohol to please others (data not tabulated in report). This finding, along with the results concerning invitations to drink, suggests that social pressure from network members can promote heavy drinking behaviour.

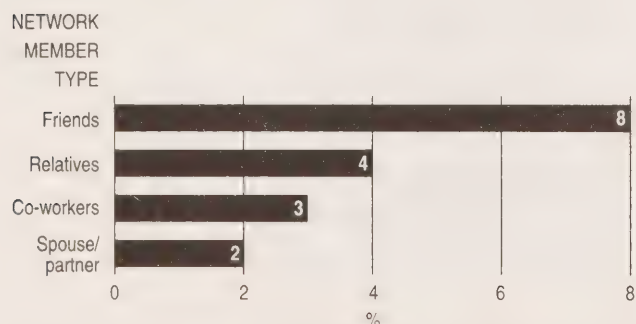
Direct social pressure to drink is most likely to come from friends (Figure 18). Almost one out of ten current drinkers (8%) report that they drank in order to please their friends, 4% drank to please their relatives, 3% drank to please their co-workers and 2%

Figure 17:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to please others, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



drank to please their spouse/partner. Women (2%) are more likely than men (1%) to report that they drank to please their spouse. Men are more likely to report social pressure from all other types of relationships. These findings hold true for all age groups (data not tabulated in report).

Figure 18:
Percentage of current drinkers who were pressured to consume alcohol in the year preceding the survey, by network member type, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Part Four:

Social Pressure to Refrain from Drinking

Definitions



In addition to inquiring about social pressure to drink, respondents were also asked whether or not there was an occasion, in the 12 months preceding the survey, when they would have liked to have had a drink but refrained from doing so in order to please another person (Q31 in Appendix B).

General Findings



One out of five current drinkers (19%) reported refraining from drinking in order to please others in the 12 months preceding the survey. In general, young Canadians are more likely than older Canadians to report that they responded to social pressure not to drink (Figure 19 and Table 17). For example, one-third of 15 to 19 year olds (35%) report that they refrained from drinking to please others, compared to 11% of those who are 65 years of age and older.

Overall, men (24%) are significantly more likely than women (13%) to report that they refrained from drinking in order to please other people (Table 17). Unlike social pressure to drink, this gender difference is consistent across age groups. However, men in the oldest age category (13%) are only slightly more likely than women (10%) to report that they responded to social pressure not to drink. In all other age categories, this gender difference is much larger (Figure 19).

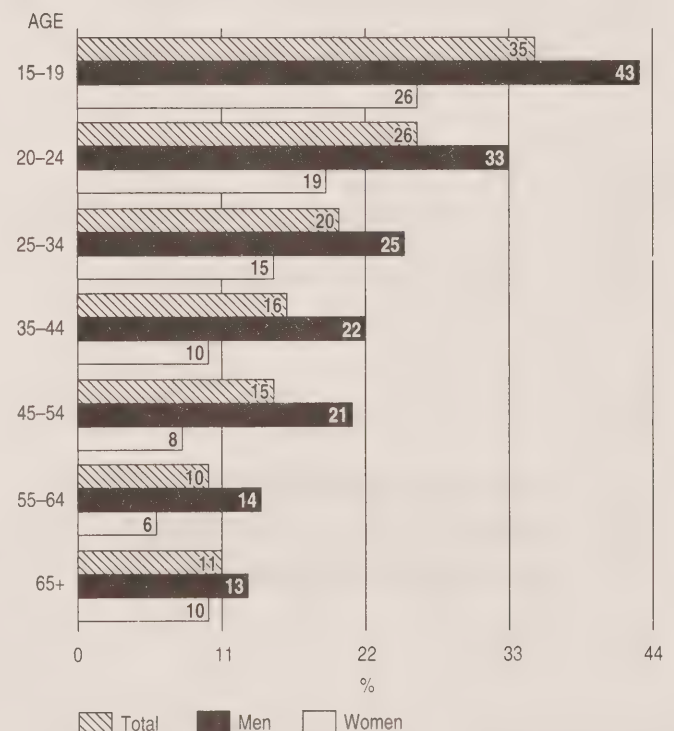
The data indicate that current drinkers who have experienced social pressure to refrain from drinking tend to be heavier-than-average drinkers. For example, current drinkers who report that they have refrained from drinking to please others consume an average of 6.2 drinks per week, compared to 3.1 drinks for those who have not experienced such social pressure (data not tabulated in report). This suggests that heavy drinking behaviour may trouble family and friends and lead them to pressure individuals to stop or reduce their alcohol consumption. In other words, rather than social pressure to refrain from drinking causing low or moderate consumption

patterns, heavy drinking appears to create social pressure to refrain.

As with social pressure to drink, social pressure not to drink is most likely to come from friends (Figure 20). Eight percent of current drinkers report that they refrained from drinking in order to please their friends, 7% refrained to please their relatives, 6% refrained to please their spouse/partner and 1% refrained to please their co-workers.

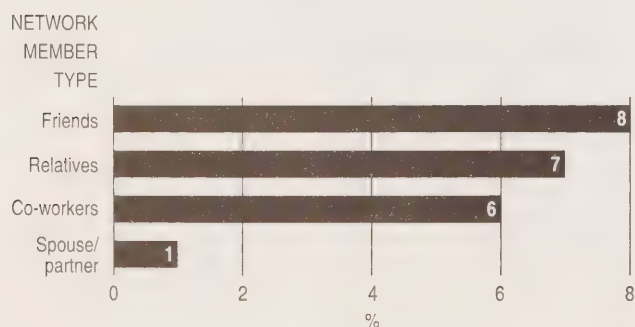
Note that younger people are the most likely to feel both pressure to drink and pressure to abstain (Table 17). One might suggest that the social pressure to drink comes from friends, whereas social pressure to abstain comes from family members (i.e., parents).

Figure 19:
Percentage of current drinkers who did not consume alcohol in the year preceding the survey in order to please others, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



However, a higher percentage of 15 to 19 year old drinkers report that they abstained (25%) rather than drank (15%) to please friends. Furthermore, 15 to 19 year olds are more likely to report that they abstained to please friends (25%) than relatives (12%) (data not tabulated in report). These findings suggest that in addition to promoting drinking among youth, friends may actually help to control an individual's level of alcohol consumption.

Figure 20:
Percentage of current drinkers who were pressured to refrain from drinking in the year preceding the survey, by network member type, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Part Five: Social Relationships and Marijuana Use

Definitions



All respondents who reported that they had used marijuana or hashish in the year preceding the survey (approximately 7% of the sample) were asked whether or not they had used these drugs either by themselves or with their friends, spouses, relatives or co-workers (Q66 in Appendix B).

General Findings



As with drinking, the findings reveal that marijuana use is a social activity. Approximately seven out of ten users (68.3%) report that they do not use marijuana when they are alone (Figure 21).

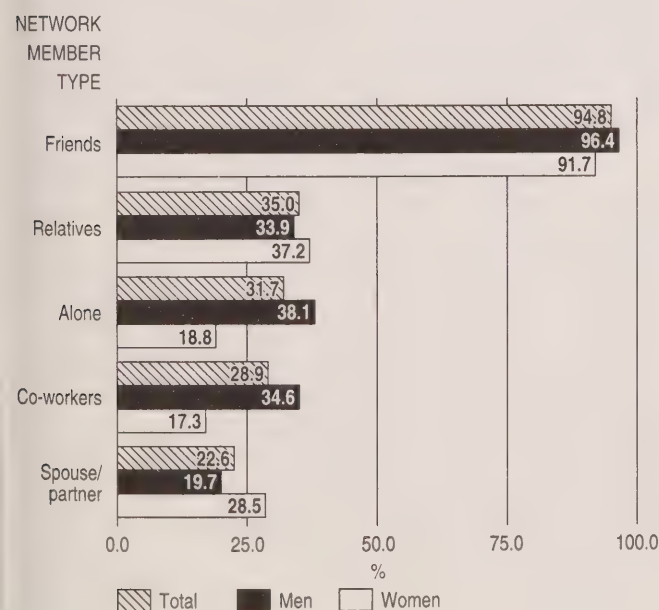
The data indicate that friends are usually present when Canadians use marijuana (Figure 21). Almost

all marijuana users (94.8%) report that they have used marijuana or hashish with their friends. More than one-third of current users (35.0%) report that they have used marijuana with their relatives, 28.9% have used marijuana with their co-workers and 22.6% have used it with their spouse or partner.

Almost equal percentages of male and female users report that they have used marijuana with their friends (96.4% vs. 91.7%) and relatives (33.9% vs. 37.2%). However, women (28.5%) are more likely than men (19.7%) to report that they have used marijuana with their spouse or partner. On the other hand, male users (34.6%) are significantly more likely than female users (17.3%) to report that they used marijuana with their co-workers. Furthermore, twice the proportion of men (38.1%) as women (18.8%) report that they have used marijuana while they were alone (Figure 21).

Small sample size and high sampling variability prevent a more detailed analysis of how the social characteristics of marijuana users relate to the characteristics of their companions. However, this brief examination strongly suggests that social relationships influence patterns of marijuana use just as they do patterns of drinking behaviour.

Figure 21:
Percentage of current marijuana users who used marijuana with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Discussion

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey clearly demonstrate that alcohol and marijuana use are social activities. Most Canadians do not drink or use drugs when they are alone. Although heavy drinkers are the most likely to use alcohol when they are alone, they are also the most likely to drink frequently with their friends, relatives and co-workers.

Friends are the most common drinking companions. However, Canadians also routinely consume alcohol with their spouse or partner, other family members and co-workers. Marijuana users are also most likely to use the drug in the presence of their friends. Using marijuana with one's spouse/partner, other family members and co-workers is far less common.

Men, younger people, those who are better educated and those with high incomes are most likely to report that they drink frequently with various network members.

The findings discussed above also indicate that current drinkers who have been invited to drink by various members of their social network are more likely to consume more alcohol than those who have not received such invitations. There is also a strong positive relationship between the number of invitations to drink from different types of network members and level of alcohol consumption. It appears that people who are encouraged to drink by the people they know tend to drink more than those who do not receive such support. Furthermore, drinkers who report that they have felt social pressure to drink tend to consume more alcohol than those who have not.

The results discussed above generally discount the image of heavy drinkers and other drug users as lonely and isolated. Indeed, the findings suggest that people learn to drink and use other drugs through a process that involves intense social interaction and communication with other persons. It appears that heavy drinkers and drug users may belong to social networks that promote and support drinking and other drug-using behaviours. On the other hand, abstainers and light drinkers belong to networks that

do not provide support for such behaviour. Nevertheless, it can still be debated whether or not Canadians' relationships cause their alcohol and other drug use, or if people's drinking and other drug use influence the people with whom they are involved (i.e., birds of a feather flock together). Whatever the direction of the relationship, and it may well be reciprocal, a number of studies have also established that social relationships play an important role in the development and maintenance of drinking and other drug-using behaviour. Although alcohol use is more common, most of the literature focuses on how social relationships influence patterns of illicit drug use. However, it is logical to assume that the same social factors that lead to the initiation and maintenance of illicit drug use can also be applied to the use of alcohol.

The above findings demonstrate that social relationships do indeed affect patterns of drug and alcohol use. However, most research in this area focuses on the impact of specific *dyadic* relationships, rather than the interplay of the wide variety of relationships each individual maintains. Thus, we cannot adequately assess the comparative effect of different types of relationships (e.g., parents, friends) on substance-using behaviours. Nor can we address the additive effect of relationships within entire social networks. A comprehensive social network approach is required if this void in our knowledge is to be filled (Berkowitz 1982).

It must also be stressed that the vast majority of previous research has focused exclusively on adolescent populations. It is unclear whether or not social relationships continue to influence alcohol and other drug use to the same extent once individuals enter adulthood. In fact, there is some speculation that network influences are less important in predicting alcohol and other drug use among adults (Kandel 1984–85). Finally, more longitudinal research is needed to clearly establish whether or not social relationships cause patterns of drug and alcohol use, or if people's alcohol and other drug use determines the types of relationships they maintain.

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Table 1:
Frequency of drinking with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Network members/Age	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Frequency of drinking (%)				
			Never	A few times per year	A few times per month	Once per week	More than once per week
With friends	8,760	15,752	6.5	43.3	30.9	12.4	6.0
15-34	4,169	7,233	3.7	36.3	35.5	15.8	8.3
35-54	2,925	5,358	5.1	48.2	30.3	11.0	4.8
55+	1,666	3,160	15.5	51.1	21.2	6.9	*3.0
With spouse/partner	8,760	15,752	48.4	19.7	15.6	8.5	7.2
15-34	4,169	7,233	59.7	15.4	14.5	6.4	3.9
35-54	2,925	5,358	33.9	25.1	18.6	12.1	9.9
55+	1,666	3,160	46.9	20.5	13.2	7.2	10.5
With relatives	8,760	15,752	20.3	53.4	19.4	4.6	1.4
15-34	4,169	7,233	23.2	49.7	21.1	4.7	*0.9
35-54	2,925	5,358	17.4	57.0	18.8	4.3	*1.9
55+	1,666	3,160	18.5	55.7	16.5	5.2	*1.8
With co-workers	8,760	15,752	60.7	24.8	8.9	3.2	1.5
15-34	4,169	7,233	53.9	26.5	12.4	4.7	2.1
35-54	2,925	5,358	55.7	31.2	8.5	2.5	1.5
55+	1,666	3,160	85.0	10.2	*1.5	—	—
Alone or when others are not drinking	8,760	15,752	76.8	12.1	4.6	2.3	3.3
15-34	4,169	7,233	81.1	10.2	5.1	1.7	1.7
35-54	2,925	5,358	72.3	16.2	5.0	2.8	3.1
55+	1,666	3,160	74.6	9.8	*2.8	*3.2	7.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 2:

Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
Male	4,332	8,310	31.6	29.0	57.6	19.3	15.3
Female	4,428	7,441	31.1	21.5	40.1	7.2	4.5
15-19	610	1,385	*1.6	18.8	59.8	13.1	*5.5
Male	307	726	—	23.4	64.9	16.8	*8.1
Female	303	659	—	*13.6	54.2	*9.0	—
20-24	925	1,787	16.1	28.4	69.5	23.9	8.7
Male	456	955	11.9	34.3	76.3	30.9	14.1
Female	469	832	21.0	21.6	61.8	15.8	—
25-34	2,634	4,061	36.4	28.6	55.2	19.3	9.3
Male	1,261	2,130	35.2	34.3	67.5	28.5	14.1
Female	1,373	1,931	37.8	22.4	41.6	9.1	*4.0
35-44	1,912	3,293	40.5	24.8	46.9	13.5	10.7
Male	967	1,683	41.3	26.7	56.5	20.4	16.2
Female	945	1,611	39.8	22.9	37.0	*6.2	*5.0
45-54	1,013	2,065	40.5	25.1	44.9	10.7	11.2
Male	538	1,145	38.9	27.0	50.2	15.1	16.7
Female	475	920	42.6	22.8	38.3	*5.3	*4.4
55-64	787	1,683	35.5	25.7	33.2	*3.4	11.8
Male	397	906	41.3	29.4	38.9	*4.6	16.6
Female	390	777	28.7	21.4	26.6	—	*6.1
65+	879	1,477	25.7	20.9	28.7	—	14.9
Male	406	766	31.7	20.4	35.1	—	22.1
Female	473	711	19.2	21.5	21.8	—	*7.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	24.6	22.6	41.5	9.1	12.0
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	32.7	26.9	50.7	13.5	9.6
Some post-secondary							
non-university degree	2,260	4,092	30.9	25.3	53.6	15.8	8.5
University degree	1,363	2,498	42.6	28.9	55.1	18.0	11.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
<\$10,000	474	4,434	*11.6	19.8	44.7	10.5	14.4
\$10,000-\$19,999	1,384	4,604	18.8	20.3	40.2	9.1	10.7
\$20,000-\$39,999	2,773	4,092	31.4	25.6	45.5	12.4	10.4
\$40,000-\$59,999	1,859	2,498	39.7	26.5	51.8	14.6	11.0
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	42.7	31.2	61.6	19.8	9.6

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 5:
Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	41.1	29.7	53.6	17.8	10.0
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	33.0	24.1	48.2	15.1	8.6
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	33.4	31.8	59.3	21.7	15.2
Looking for work	239	384	*21.5	*17.9	51.7	*16.0	*12.7
Student	811	1,751	*5.7	18.5	61.5	11.3	*5.2
Retired	868	1,528	28.8	24.1	32.0	—	16.3
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	37.7	18.7	28.9	—	*4.0
Other	78	142	*23.5	*24.4	*40.4	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 6:

Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
Married	4,774	9,294	46.3	25.9	41.7	10.0	9.4
Separated/divorced	890	1,174	13.7	20.5	52.3	15.8	13.1
Widowed	486	609	—	24.7	29.2	—	*14.3
Never married	2,605	4,667	9.7	25.8	66.3	21.6	10.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 7:

Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
English	7,028	11,186	31.9	25.3	51.3	14.2	10.8
French	1,488	3,785	31.8	27.6	47.1	13.0	8.9
Other	193	673	23.6	18.7	34.4	*8.3	10.0

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:

Percentage of current drinkers who consumed alcohol a few times per month or more often with various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of drinks	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers	Alone
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.4	25.4	49.3	13.6	10.2
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	17.8	13.4	30.0	5.9	3.6
1–7 drinks	3,172	6,017	42.6	32.2	59.9	15.0	10.7
8–14 drinks	802	1,430	48.2	46.7	81.7	31.7	25.2
15+ drinks	457	928	40.6	44.2	83.9	36.7	36.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
Male	4,332	8,310	25.2	59.2	76.8	41.8
Female	4,428	7,441	37.9	56.5	66.4	26.1
15-19	610	1,385	*3.4	59.5	82.8	26.3
Male	307	726	—	63.3	87.1	31.1
Female	303	659	*5.1	55.2	78.0	21.1
20-24	925	1,787	16.9	60.6	83.2	45.9
Male	456	955	*9.4	62.9	87.0	50.3
Female	469	832	25.6	58.1	78.7	40.8
25-34	2,634	4,061	37.8	61.1	77.5	44.0
Male	1,261	2,130	31.0	63.5	83.1	54.1
Female	1,373	1,931	45.3	58.5	71.5	32.9
35-44	1,912	3,293	42.8	57.8	73.9	40.9
Male	967	1,683	35.9	58.3	78.6	51.2
Female	945	1,611	50.0	57.3	69.0	30.2
45-54	1,013	2,065	36.3	57.5	68.6	35.9
Male	538	1,145	29.3	58.0	73.4	43.8
Female	475	920	45.0	56.7	62.7	26.0
55-64	787	1,683	31.0	52.7	56.1	16.3
Male	397	906	23.9	51.8	60.5	20.3
Female	390	777	39.3	53.8	50.9	*11.7
65+	879	1,477	23.7	51.4	50.5	*5.4
Male	406	766	22.6	51.6	57.2	*8.4
Female	473	711	24.8	51.1	43.4	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

Source: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 10:
Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	22.9	55.2	63.8	23.2
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	35.4	59.1	73.0	34.0
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,260	4,092	31.6	59.9	77.4	40.5
University degree	1,363	2,498	38.9	59.9	77.5	45.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:

Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
<\$10,000	474	569	*10.3	53.8	69.0	20.4
\$10,000–\$19,999	1,384	1,892	20.7	55.5	64.3	24.5
\$20,000–\$39,999	2,773	4,477	30.9	56.8	68.4	32.0
\$40,000–\$59,999	1,859	3,788	40.0	61.8	76.8	40.4
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	39.8	61.3	78.9	47.7

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	39.6	60.6	77.7	51.5
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	35.9	57.8	74.6	42.4
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	28.3	60.7	75.3	43.6
Looking for work	239	384	21.9	59.7	71.4	30.6
Student	811	1,751	*5.7	59.3	85.2	27.4
Retired	868	1,528	26.2	52.9	54.3	—
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	46.5	55.4	56.3	—
Other	78	142	*19.7	65.2	71.0	*17.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:

Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
Married	4,774	9,294	46.9	58.6	68.1	31.4
Separated/divorced	890	1,174	13.8	56.2	76.9	44.6
Widowed	486	609	—	56.4	52.3	*8.7
Never married	2,605	4,667	*9.0	58.9	82.7	41.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 14:

Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
English	7,028	11,186	35.3	63.4	78.7	37.7
French	1,488	3,785	22.3	46.1	55.1	26.6
Other	193	673	19.3	45.5	67.9	30.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 15:

Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by frequency of alcohol consumption and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Drinking frequency/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
Male	4,332	8,310	25.2	59.2	76.8	41.8
Female	4,428	7,441	37.9	56.5	66.4	26.1
Less than once per month	2,435	4,078	22.8	51.5	58.4	21.0
Male	728	1,395	13.1	50.0	63.3	25.5
Female	1,707	2,683	27.9	52.3	55.9	18.6
1-3 times per month	2,274	3,871	31.6	57.2	73.0	33.3
Male	992	1,803	24.2	56.9	74.4	39.4
Female	1,282	2,068	38.1	57.4	71.7	28.1
Once per week	1,658	2,935	31.0	60.2	76.6	36.8
Male	953	1,690	22.5	60.6	81.6	43.9
Female	705	1,245	42.5	59.7	69.9	27.2
2-3 times per week	1,578	3,099	38.2	64.6	82.6	48.1
Male	1,078	2,130	30.7	64.9	83.3	52.3
Female	500	969	54.7	63.8	81.1	38.9
4+ times per week	766	1,684	39.5	61.7	77.3	41.2
Male	562	1,252	35.0	63.0	79.9	43.5
Female	204	432	52.3	57.9	69.6	34.3

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 16:

Percentage of current drinkers who were invited to consume alcohol by various network member types in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of drinks/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	8,760	15,752	31.2	57.9	71.9	34.4
Male	4,332	8,310	25.2	59.2	76.8	41.8
Female	4,428	7,441	37.9	56.5	66.4	26.1
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	25.4	53.1	64.1	25.6
Male	1,716	3,159	16.2	52.4	69.7	32.0
Female	2,613	4,218	32.3	53.7	60.0	20.7
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	37.0	60.9	76.0	37.7
Male	1,639	3,281	30.2	62.3	78.6	43.7
Female	1,533	2,736	45.1	59.1	73.0	30.5
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	37.7	68.2	85.7	54.7
Male	587	1,079	34.8	69.4	85.8	57.1
Female	215	351	46.7	64.5	85.3	47.3
15+ drinks	457	928	29.7	61.2	85.6	51.7
Male	390	792	27.1	60.1	85.7	51.6
Female	67	136	*45.0	67.9	84.6	52.6

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 17:

Percentage of current drinkers who drank or refrained from drinking in order to please others, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drank to please others	Refrained from drinking to please others
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	13.4	18.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	23.9
Female	4,428	7,441	11.8	13.0
15-19	610	1,385	18.5	34.7
Male	307	726	24.4	42.7
Female	303	659	*12.0	26.0
20-24	925	1,787	16.0	26.3
Male	456	955	17.4	32.5
Female	469	832	14.3	19.3
25-34	2,634	4,061	14.9	20.4
Male	1,261	2,130	17.5	25.1
Female	1,373	1,931	12.1	15.2
35-44	1,912	3,293	12.9	16.0
Male	967	1,683	13.6	22.2
Female	945	1,611	12.2	9.5
45-54	1,013	2,065	11.0	15.1
Male	538	1,145	11.6	21.0
Female	475	920	*10.3	*7.8
55-64	787	1,683	9.9	10.0
Male	397	906	*9.4	13.6
Female	390	777	*10.5	*5.9
65+	879	1,477	9.6	11.3
Male	406	766	*9.0	*12.6
Female	473	711	*10.4	*10.0

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Chapter 4: *Alcohol and Marijuana Use in Various Social Settings*

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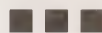
Highlights

Part One: Frequency of Participation in Different Activities



- The data suggest that Canadians spend most of their leisure time in private rather than public settings. Among current drinkers, the most frequent activity is spending a quiet evening at home, followed by spending time at someone else's home and having friends or relatives over to visit.
- The vast majority (94%) of current drinkers spend a quiet evening at home at least once a week. Four out of ten (38%) visit someone else's home at least once per week, and one-third (36%) have their friends or relatives visit them with the same frequency.
- One out of four current drinkers (23%) engage in sports activities on a weekly basis, and one in five report going to a restaurant for dinner (21%) or lunch (18%) as frequently.
- Although 11% of current drinkers go to a bar or tavern once per week or more often, over half (55%) report that they never participate in this activity.
- For most Canadians, attending a party or other social gathering is a rather special occasion. Only one out of 50 Canadians (2%) attend a party or social activity once per week or more often. However, most Canadians attend a party on at least a few occasions per year. Sixteen percent report that they never attend a party or social gathering.
- Other infrequent activities include attending concerts, sports events or festivals and engaging in outdoor leisure activities.

Part Two: Frequency of Drinking in Various Settings



- Regardless of age or gender, Canadians are most likely to drink when going to a bar or tavern; attending a party, social gathering or wedding; going to a restaurant for dinner; or engaging in outdoor leisure activities.
- Nearly three-quarters of current drinkers (72%) report that they always drink when going to a bar, whereas an additional 16% drink half the time or more often. Only 3% report that they never consume alcohol in this setting.
- One out of two current drinkers (53%) always drink when they attend a party, social gathering or wedding, whereas an additional 21% drink half the time or more often. Only 8% report that they never drink during such occasions.
- Twenty-three percent of current drinkers always consume alcohol when having dinner at a restaurant, whereas an additional 21% drink half the time or more often. Twenty-nine percent report that they never drink while having dinner at restaurants.
- Fifteen percent of current drinkers have alcohol whenever they are engaged in leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating, whereas an additional 22% drink half the time or more often. Twenty-nine percent report that they never drink while engaged in such activities.
- The activities during which most current drinkers never drink are eating lunch at a restaurant (77%), engaging in sporting activities (69%), going to a concert or festival (67%), going to a club or meeting (64%) or spending a quiet evening at home (55%).

- The findings indicate that average drinkers consume alcohol 83% of the times they visit a bar or tavern; 68% of the times they attend a party, social gathering or wedding; 38% of the times they go out for an evening meal in a restaurant; 34% of the times they participate in an outdoor leisure activity such as boating or camping; 31% of the times they have friends or relatives over for a visit; 30% of the times they spend time at someone else's home; 19% of the times they go to a club or organizational meeting; 16% of the times when at a concert, sports event or festival; 16% of the times they spend a quiet evening at home; 15% of the times they participate in a sporting event; and 9% of the times they have lunch in a restaurant.

Part Three: Mean Level of Consumption in Specific Settings



- The level of drinking per occasion is highest in bars and taverns (an average of 3.4 drinks per occasion), at parties, social gatherings or weddings (3.2 drinks) and when participating in outdoor leisure activities (3.1 drinks).
- For drinkers of all ages, consumption is lowest when having lunch or dinner at a restaurant (1.3 and 1.6 drinks, respectively) or spending a quiet evening at home (2.0 drinks).
- Younger people tend to consume more alcoholic beverages when attending concerts or other special events. For example, current drinkers between 15 and 19 years of age consume an average of 3.8 drinks when attending such events, compared to 2.0 drinks for those 35 years of age and over.

Part Four: The Distribution of Drinking in Various Settings

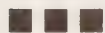


- Three pieces of information — how often respondents engage in particular activities, how often they drink when they do and the usual number of drinks they have when they do drink — are combined to generate an estimate of the amount of drinking that takes place within each setting.

- The results of the survey indicate that most alcohol consumption (64%) takes place in private rather than public settings.
- Drinking during quiet evenings at home accounts for approximately one-fifth (18%) of all alcohol consumption, followed by drinking at parties, social gatherings or weddings (16%), when friends or relatives visit (16%) and when spending time at someone else's home (15%).
- A substantial proportion of total alcohol consumption occurs in licensed establishments. The remaining consumption is accounted for by drinking at outdoor activities, while participating in sports, at a club or organizational meeting and when attending a concert, sports event or festival.
- There is very little difference between regions in terms of the mean proportion of consumption in various settings. However, people in Quebec and British Columbia consume a disproportionate amount of alcohol in restaurants, whereas the residents of the Atlantic and Prairie provinces and British Columbia consume a disproportionate amount in bars or taverns.
- Women consume a considerably higher percentage of their total consumption in social situations such as at parties or social gatherings, when friends or relatives visit, when spending time at someone else's home and at restaurants. On the other hand, men consume a greater proportion of their total consumption in bars and taverns and when spending a quiet evening at home.
- Young people consume a considerably higher percentage of their total consumption in bars and at parties, whereas older people are more likely to drink in private settings and in restaurants.
- In general, the proportion of total consumption in private settings is not related to income or education. However, those with low income and education consume a relatively high proportion of their total consumption at parties and in bars or taverns. On the other hand, those with high income and education consume a relatively high proportion of their total consumption in restaurants.

- The proportion of total consumption in bars or taverns is relatively high among individuals who are either single or separated/divorced. On the other hand, married and widowed individuals consume most of their alcohol in private settings.
- Compared to Anglophones and those who speak other languages, Francophones consume a higher proportion of their total consumption in restaurants.
- The data clearly indicate that there is a very strong association between higher consumption levels and the proportion of consumption that occurs in particular venues. In particular, the proportion of total drinking that occurs when socializing with friends and when attending parties or other social gatherings is much higher among low-level consumers. Heavy drinkers, on the other hand, report a higher proportion of total alcohol consumption in bars and taverns and during quiet evenings at home.

Part Five: Social Settings and Marijuana Use



- The findings clearly indicate that marijuana use is most likely to take place in private settings. The vast majority (86.6%) report that they used marijuana at a private home. The second most common venue for marijuana use is at parties or social gatherings (62.5%), followed by the outdoors (41.4%) and concerts or festivals (29.9%). Marijuana use is least likely to occur at a bar or tavern (17.3%) and at school or university (7.6%).
- This pattern of use is consistent for men and women. The private nature of most marijuana use is obviously related to the fact that this drug is illegal in Canada.

Introduction

Research on where people consume alcohol and other drugs is very limited (for a review of this literature, see Clark 1985; Single 1985). The scarcity of data on the amount of drinking and other drug use in different social settings is remarkable in view of the need for more complete research in two major areas of concern in the alcohol and other drug policy field: the epidemiology of alcohol and other drug use, and the determinants of heavy consumption.

The epidemiological significance is almost self-evident. Given the importance of situational variables for rates of drinking (Single 1987), it is essential for the epidemiological study of alcohol use to have a complete description of the extent of drinking in different situations. Furthermore, detailed data on the extent of drinking in different social situations may contribute to our understanding of the etiology of alcohol-related problems. There is preliminary evidence that chronic heavy drinking, as well as drinking leading to acute problems such as intoxication or impaired driving, may be related to drinking in particular social settings. For example, roadside breathalyser surveys indicate that drinking in taverns contributes disproportionately to impaired driving incidents (Ontario Advisory Committee on Liquor Regulation 1987; Single and McKenzie 1989).

The purpose of this chapter is to present data from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey on the extent of drinking and marijuana use in various social settings. The survey is the first study that addresses this issue using data from a national sample of Canadians. The chapter begins by examining how often Canadians participate in 11 common activities. It then examines how often people drink in each setting and the typical amount of alcohol they consume when they do drink. These items are then combined in order to provide a “mapping” of the extent of drinking in various social settings. The final section of the chapter examines the settings in which people use marijuana.

Part One:

Frequency of Participation in Different Activities

Definitions

All respondents were asked how often they engaged in the following 11 activities in the 12 months preceding the survey: 1) spending a quiet evening at home; 2) spending time at someone else's home; 3) having friends or relatives over for a visit; 4) going out for an evening meal in a restaurant; 5) going out for lunch in a restaurant; 6) going to a bar or tavern; 7) going to a club or organizational meeting; 8) engaging in an outdoor leisure activity such as boating or camping; 9) participating in a sporting event; 10) attending a party, social gathering or wedding; and 11) going to a concert, sports event or festival (Q14, Q15, Q25, Q26 in Appendix B).

General Findings

The data suggest that Canadians spend most of their leisure time in private rather than public settings (Figure 1 and Table 1). Among current drinkers, the most frequent activity is spending a quiet evening at home, followed by spending time at someone else's home and having friends or relatives over to visit. The vast majority (94%) of current drinkers spend a quiet evening at home at least once a week. Most (87%) do so more than once per week. Four out of ten drinkers (38%) visit someone else's home at least once per week, and one-third (36%) have their friends or relatives visit them with the same frequency.

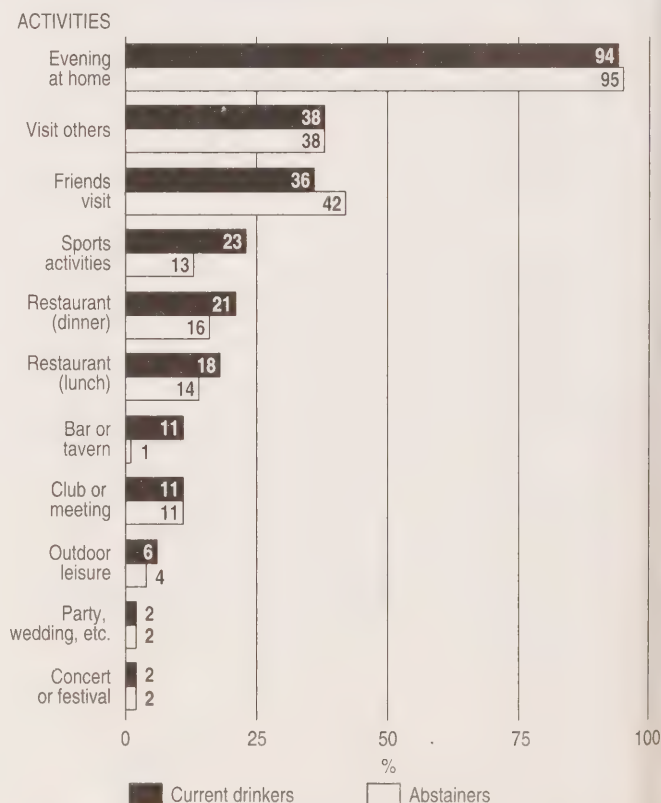
Engaging in sports and dining out appear to be the most common public activities. One out of four current drinkers (23%) engage in sports activities at least once per week, and about one in five report going to a restaurant for dinner (21%) or lunch (18%) as frequently.

Although one out of ten current drinkers (11%) report that they go to a bar or tavern once per week or more often, over half (55%) report that they never participate in this activity. Similarly, although 11% of current drinkers attend a club or meeting once per week or more often, 58% report that they never do so.

Most Canadians (84%) attend a party or social gathering at least a few times per year. However, only one out of 50 Canadians (2%) attend a party or social activity once per week or more often. Although attending parties or social gatherings is not a frequent activity, only a minority (16%) report that they never do so.

Other infrequent activities include attending concerts, sports events or festivals and engaging in outdoor leisure activities (Figure 1).

Figure 1:
Percentage of current drinkers and abstainers who participated in various social activities once per week or more often in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The frequency of participation in various activities is remarkably similar for both current drinkers and abstainers (Figure 1 and Table 2). Abstainers are somewhat more likely than drinkers to have friends or relatives visit their homes weekly or more often (42% vs. 36%), and they are less likely to go to bars or participate in sports activities. Otherwise, there is little difference between the two groups.

Part Two: Frequency of Drinking in Various Settings

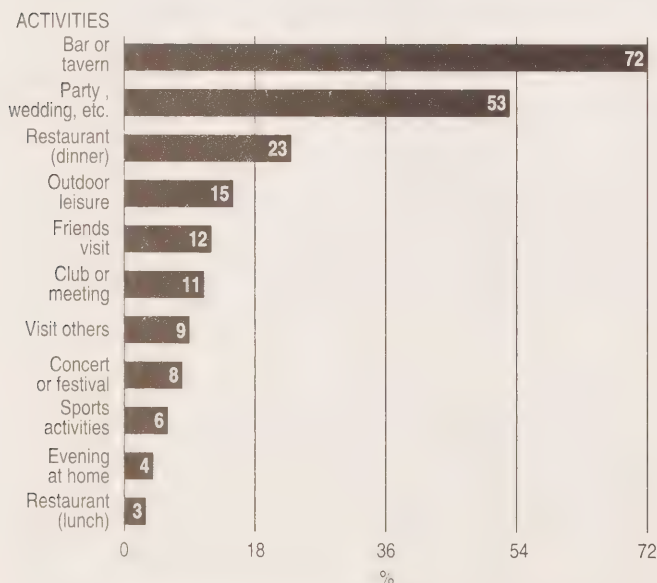
Definitions

All current drinkers were asked how often they drank when engaged in each of the 11 activities discussed above in the year preceding the survey (Q25, Q26 in Appendix B).

General Findings

Regardless of age or gender, Canadians are most likely to drink when going to a bar or tavern; attending a party, social gathering or wedding; going to a restaurant for dinner; or engaging in outdoor leisure activities (Figure 2 and Table 3). Nearly three-quarters of current drinkers (72%) report that they always drink when going to a bar, whereas an additional 16% drink half the time or more often. Only 3% report that they never consume alcohol in this setting.

Figure 2:
Percentage of current drinkers who always drank when participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



One out of two current drinkers (53%) always drink when they attend a party, social gathering or wedding, whereas an additional 21% drink half the time or more often. Only 8% report that they never drink during such occasions.

Twenty-three percent of current drinkers always consume alcohol when having dinner at a restaurant, whereas an additional 21% drink half the time or more often. Twenty-nine percent report they never drink while having dinner at restaurants. Fifteen percent of current drinkers always drink when engaged in leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating, whereas an additional 22% drink half the time or more often. Twenty-nine percent report they never drink while engaged in such activities.

More than half of the current drinkers report that they never drink when they are eating lunch at a restaurant (77%), engaging in sporting activities (69%), going to a concert or festival (67%), going to a club or meeting (64%) and spending a quiet evening at home (55%) (Table 3).

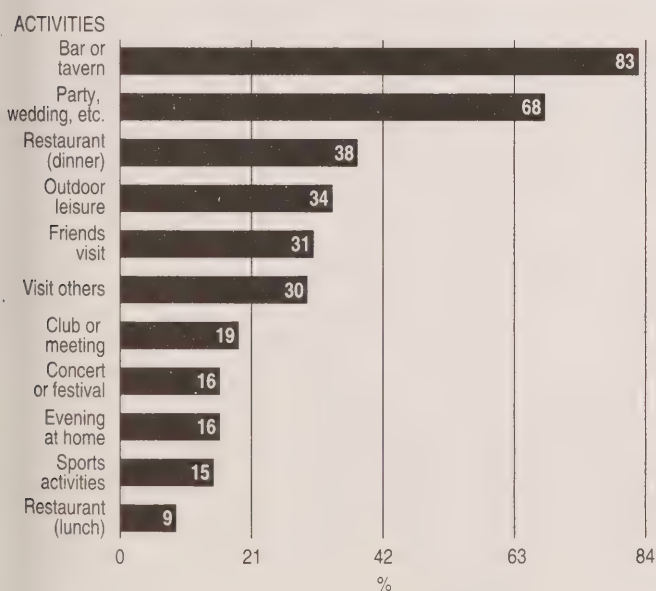
The survey data may also be summarized in terms of the percentage of occasions Canadians report drinking when participating in different types of social activities.¹ The findings indicate that average drinkers consume alcohol 83% of the times they visit a bar or tavern; 68% of the times they attend a party, social gathering or wedding; 38% of the times they go out for an evening meal in a restaurant; 34% of the times they participate in an outdoor leisure activity such as boating or camping; 31% of the times they have friends or relatives over for a visit; 30% of the times they spend time at someone else's home; 19% of the times they go to a club or organizational meeting; 16% of the times they attend a concert, sports event

¹ The overall percentage of occasions on which drinking occurs is computed using the following weight factors:

Never = 0.00
 Less than half the time = 0.25
 About half the time = 0.50
 More than half the time = 0.75
 Always = 1.00

or festival; 16% of the times they spend a quiet evening at home; 15% of the times they participate in a sporting event; and 9% of the times they have lunch in a restaurant (Figure 3).

Figure 3:
Proportion of time spent drinking when participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Part Three: Mean Level of Consumption in Specific Settings

Definitions



If current drinkers indicated that they had consumed alcohol in a specific setting in the year preceding the survey, they were asked to estimate the usual number of drinks they consumed per drinking occasion in that setting (Q25, Q26 in Appendix B).

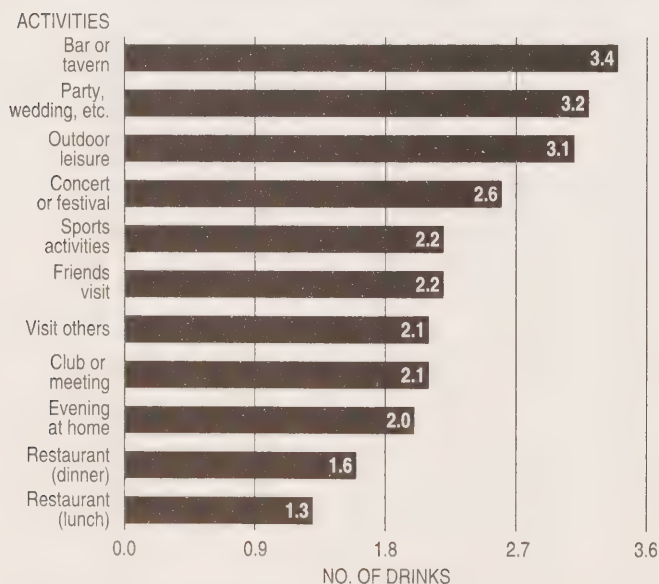
However, younger people tend to consume more alcoholic beverages when attending concerts or other special events. For example, current drinkers between 15 and 19 years of age consume an average of 3.8 drinks when attending such events, compared to 2.0 drinks for those 35 years of age and over (data not tabulated in report).

General Findings



The level of drinking per occasion (Figure 4) is highest in bars and taverns (an average of 3.4 drinks per occasion), at parties, social gatherings or weddings (3.2 drinks) and when participating in outdoor leisure activities (3.1 drinks). For drinkers of all ages, consumption is lowest when having lunch or dinner at a restaurant (1.3 and 1.6 drinks, respectively) and spending a quiet evening at home (2.0 drinks).

Figure 4:
Average number of drinks consumed per drinking occasion when participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Part Four: The Distribution of Drinking in Various Settings

Definitions



Three pieces of information — how often respondents engage in particular activities, how often they drink when they do and the usual number of drinks they have when they do drink — can be combined to generate an estimate of the amount of drinking that takes place within each setting.

General Findings



Because it combines three pieces of information, the mean proportion of consumption in each setting is an ideal summary measure for examining the social characteristics of people who are likely to drink when engaged in particular activities (Figure 5).²

The results of the survey indicate that most alcohol consumption (64%) takes place in private rather than public settings. Drinking during quiet evenings at home accounts for approximately one-fifth (18%) of all alcohol consumption, followed by drinking at parties, social gatherings or weddings (16%), when friends or relatives visit (16%) and when spending time at someone else's home (15%).

Nonetheless, a substantial proportion of total alcohol consumption occurs in licensed establishments. Drinking in bars and taverns accounts for 12% of reported consumption, and drinking with meals in restaurants accounts for 11% (evening meals) and 1%.

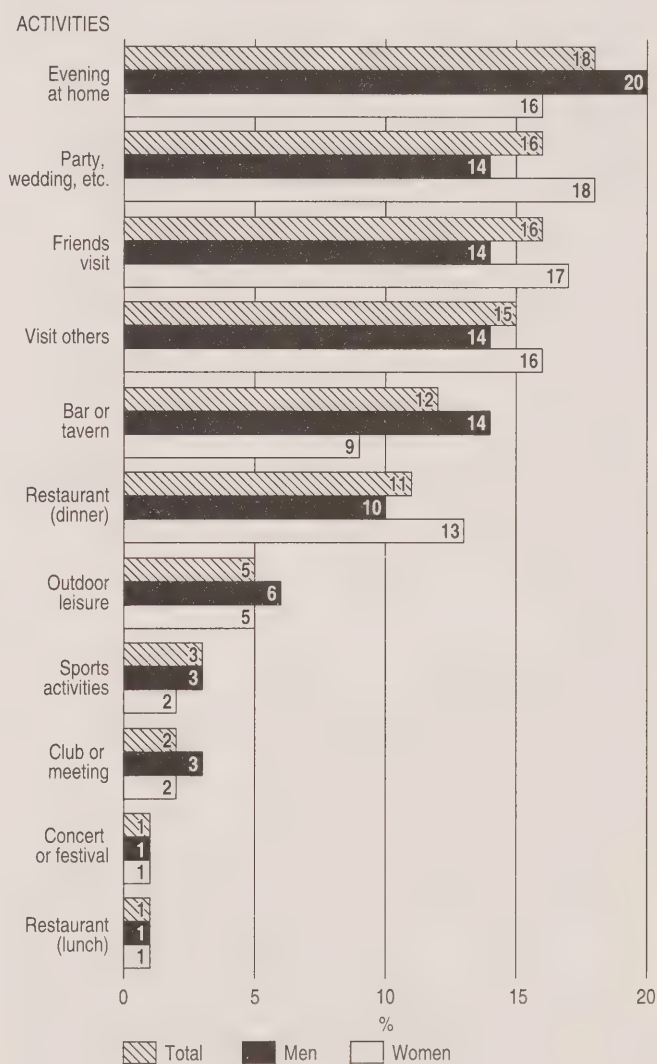
² The method for combining the three component items is as follows. First, answers to questions regarding the frequency of participation in each activity were weighted:

Never = 0
Few times per year = 6
Few times per month = 24
Once per week = 52
More than once per week = 156

Second, the weighted participation rate was multiplied by the proportion of time the respondent reported drinking at these events, using the weights described above, to arrive at an estimate for the number of times per year the respondent drinks while participating in each activity. This figure was then multiplied by the mean number of drinks per drinking occasion for each activity to arrive at an estimate of the total number of drinks consumed per year in each situation.

(lunches). The remaining consumption is accounted for by drinking at outdoor activities (5%), drinking while participating in sports (3%), drinking during a

Figure 5:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption when participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 (total), 4,332 (men), 4,428 (women)
Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752 (total), 8,310 (men), 7,441 (women)

club or organizational meeting (2%) and drinking when attending a concert, sports event or festival (1%).

Region



With a few exceptions, there is very little difference between regions in terms of the mean proportion of consumption in various settings (Table 4).

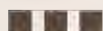
The residents of the Atlantic provinces (20%), British Columbia (20%) and Ontario (20%) consume a slightly higher proportion of their total consumption during quiet evenings at home than the residents of Quebec (16%) and the Prairie provinces (16%).

The residents of Quebec (16%) and British Columbia (15%) consume a higher proportion of their total consumption in restaurants, compared to a national rate of 10.9%. By contrast, current drinkers in the Atlantic provinces consume only 7% of their total consumption in restaurants.

The residents of the Prairie provinces (15%), the Atlantic region (14%) and British Columbia (14%) consume a higher percentage of their total consumption in bars or taverns than the residents of Quebec (11%) and Ontario (10%).

Finally, the mean proportion of total consumption while attending parties, social gatherings or weddings is relatively low in both Quebec (12%) and British Columbia (14%).

Sex

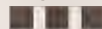


The data indicate that male and female drinkers differ in their drinking practices according to the setting (Figure 5). Women consume a considerably higher percentage of their total consumption in social situations such as at parties or social gatherings (18% vs. 14%), when having friends or relatives visit (17% vs. 14%), when spending time at someone else's home (16% vs. 14%) and at restaurants (15% vs. 11%).

On the other hand, men consume a greater proportion of their total consumption in bars and taverns (14% vs. 9%) and when spending a quiet evening at home (20% vs. 16%). Men also consume a significantly higher proportion of their total consumption when

engaged in sports activities (3% vs. 2%). The implication is that a higher proportion of men's alcohol consumption takes place in traditionally male-only settings, whereas a higher proportion of women's drinking is in mixed settings.

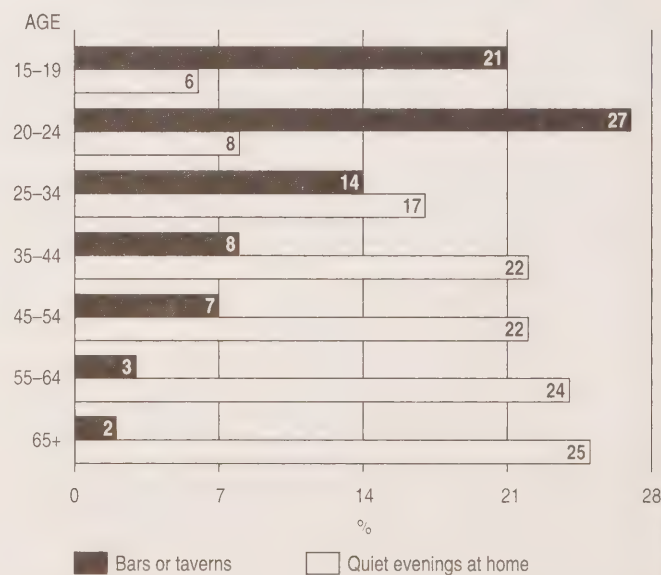
Age



Age is strongly related to both venue and level of consumption within particular venues (Table 5). Younger persons are more likely to go to bars and taverns, parties and sporting events, as well as engage in outdoor activities, whereas older persons are more likely to stay at home. Furthermore, younger persons report higher rates of drinking in all situations except when staying at home for a quiet evening.

Overall, the proportion of alcohol consumption in bars or taverns is significantly higher among young people (Figure 6). For example, drinking in bars or taverns accounts for 27% of total consumption among 20 to 24 year olds, compared to only 2% among those 65 years of age and older. It is interesting to note that 21% of total alcohol consumption among 15 to 19 year

Figure 6:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption in bars or taverns or during quiet evenings at home in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



olds takes place in bars or taverns — second only to 20 to 24 year olds. This finding suggests that a good deal of illegal, underaged drinking takes place in licensed establishments.

Drinking at parties or social gatherings accounts for more than one-quarter (27%) of total alcohol consumption among 15 to 19 year olds, compared to a national rate of 16% (a difference of 11 percentage points) (Table 5). There is very little difference (less than three percentage points) between all other age groups. This finding suggests that parties or social gatherings appear to provide teenagers with a special opportunity to drink without adult supervision.

The data indicate that there is a positive relationship between age and drinking in private settings (Figure 6). For example, drinking during quiet evenings at home accounts for one-quarter (25%) of total consumption among those 65 years of age and older, compared to only 6% among 15 to 19 year olds and 8% among 20 to 24 year olds. Similarly, drinking when friends visit accounts for 22% of all consumption among those 65 years of age and older, compared to 13% among 15 to 19 year olds. Interestingly, there is little difference between age groups in terms of the proportion of alcohol consumed when visiting others (Table 5).

The data also suggest that the proportion of total alcohol consumption in restaurants is higher among older Canadians (Table 5). For example, drinking in restaurants accounts for 17% of total consumption among 45 to 54 year olds, compared to 10% among 20 to 24 year olds and 6% among 15 to 19 year olds.

Income



Higher household income is associated with more frequent visits to restaurants, organizational meetings, concerts and sporting events, whereas lower-income persons are somewhat more likely to spend time at home or visiting friends. However, when they do go to bars and taverns, low-income drinkers tend to consume more alcohol than those with high incomes.

In general, the proportion of total consumption in private settings is not related to income (Table 6). For example, drinking at home accounts for 17% of total consumption among both those with household

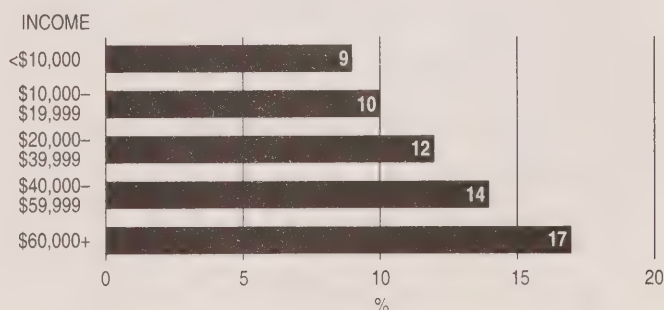
incomes less than \$10,000 a year and those in households making more than \$60,000.

The data suggest that there is a positive relationship between income and the amount of drinking that takes place in restaurants (Figure 7). For example, drinking in restaurants accounts for 17% of total consumption among those in households earning \$60,000 a year or more, compared to 10% among those with household incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 9% of those in households making less than \$10,000.

High-income drinkers also consume a slightly higher proportion of their total consumption when engaging in outdoor leisure activities, participating in sports activities, going to concerts, festivals or sports events and going to clubs or meetings (Table 6). For example, drinking during outdoor leisure activities accounts for 6% of total consumption among those with household incomes between \$40,000 and \$59,999 a year, compared to 3% among those in households earning less than \$10,000.

By contrast, low-income drinkers consume a higher proportion of their total consumption in bars and at parties, social gatherings or weddings (Figure 8 and Table 6). For example, drinking in bars or taverns accounts for 16% of total consumption among those in households making less than \$10,000 a year, compared to 10% among those with household incomes between \$40,000 and \$59,999 and 12% among those in households earning \$60,000 a year or more. Similarly, drinking at parties accounts for 19% of total consumption among those in households

Figure 7:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption in restaurants in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



earning less than \$10,000 a year, compared to 13% of those with household incomes of \$60,000 or more.

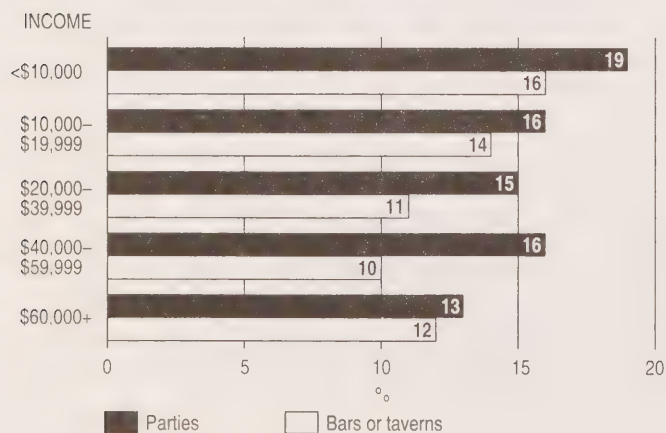
Education



The pattern with regard to education resembles but does not mirror that of income. Highly educated Canadians are more likely to engage in almost all of the social activities reviewed in this report, whereas less well educated Canadians are more likely to stay at home in the evenings. Possibly because of their higher income, rates of drinking per occasion tended to be higher for the better-educated Canadians in licensed venues, whereas less well educated Canadians drank more at home and at parties. Overall, there is a relationship between education and where people do most of their drinking, but it is not as strong as the relationship between income and drinking venue (Table 7).

As with income, education is positively related to the amount of drinking that takes place in restaurants (Figure 9 and Table 7). For example, drinking in restaurants accounts for 18% of total consumption among those with a university degree, compared to 9% among those with less than a high-school diploma.

Figure 8:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption in bars or taverns and at parties in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Less well educated Canadians, on the other hand, report a much higher proportion of drinking at parties or social gatherings (Figure 9). For example, drinking at parties accounts for 19% of total consumption among those with less than a high-school diploma, compared to 12% among those with a university degree.

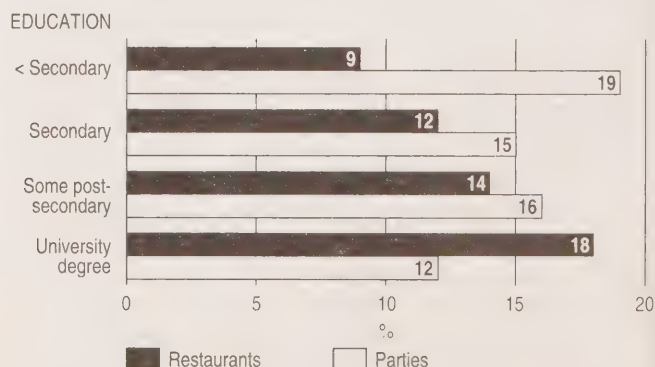
Drinking in bars and taverns seems to be associated with a middle-level education, suggesting an interactive effect between education and income (Table 7). For example, drinking at bars or taverns accounts for 15% of consumption among those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree and 13% among those with a high-school diploma. By contrast, it accounts for only 9% of consumption among those with a university degree and 10% among those with less than a high-school diploma.

Employment Status



The proportion of total alcohol consumption by social setting also varies according to employment status (Table 8). Consistent with the findings concerning age, retired persons consume a higher proportion of their total consumption at home. For example, drinking during quiet evenings at home accounts for 25% of total consumption among retired drinkers, followed by blue-collar workers (21%), managers/professionals (19%), homemakers (19%), those looking

Figure 9:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption in restaurants and at parties in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



for work (17%), other white-collar workers (16%) and students (7%).

The proportion of alcohol consumption in restaurants is highest among those in managerial/professional positions (Table 8). For example, drinking in restaurants accounts for 17% of total consumption among managers/professionals, followed by homemakers (16%), other white-collar workers (15%), retired persons (14%), blue-collar workers (11%), students (9%) and those who are looking for work (8%).

Consumption in bars or taverns is highest among students and those who are looking for work (Table 8). For example, drinking in bars accounts for 22% of total consumption among students, followed by those looking for work (17%), blue-collar workers (15%), white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (13%), managers/professionals (10%), homemakers (5%) and those who are retired (2%).

Students also have the highest proportion of consumption at parties and other social gatherings (Table 8). For example, drinking at parties accounts for 23% of total consumption among students, followed by homemakers (18%), white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (17%), those looking for work (16%), those who are retired (15%), blue-collar workers (14%) and managers/professionals (14%).

Marital Status

Marital status is also related to both venue and level of consumption within particular venues (Table 9). Overall, the proportion of total consumption in bars or taverns is higher among individuals who are single (never married) (23%), separated (15%) or divorced (15%) than among those who are married (6%) or widowed (3%). These figures suggest that bars or taverns may serve as meeting places for individuals who are looking for intimate companions.

Compared to single individuals (10%), those who are married (22%) or widowed (18%) consume a higher proportion of their total alcohol intake during quiet evenings at home. Little difference exists with regard to the other drinking venues examined in this report, although widowed individuals are less likely to engage in activities that involve physical activity

(e.g., participating in sports, outdoor leisure activities).

Language

With few exceptions, language spoken at home does not have a strong effect on the proportion of alcohol consumed in various settings (Table 10).

Compared to Anglophones (12%) and those who speak other languages (9%), Francophones consume a higher proportion of their total consumption (16%) in restaurants (Table 10). This finding is consistent with the regional data discussed above, showing a higher proportion of alcohol consumption in restaurants in Quebec.

The proportion of total consumption at parties or social gatherings is significantly higher among those who speak another language (21%) than among English-speaking (17%) or French-speaking (12%) Canadians. Similarly, compared to Anglophones (19%) and Francophones (16%), those who speak other languages (22%) consume a higher proportion of their total consumption during quiet evenings at home. There is little difference between language groups with regard to the other drinking venues examined in this report (Table 10).

Where Heavy Drinkers Drink

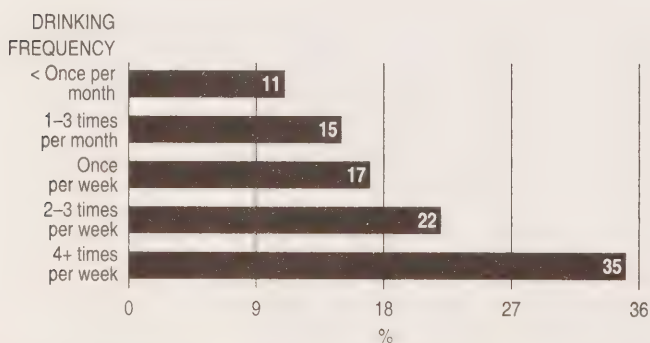
When compared to light or moderate drinkers, heavy drinkers are obviously more likely to report relatively high levels of alcohol consumption in most if not all social settings. However, at issue is not whether they consume more alcohol in particular venues, but whether they consume disproportionately more.

The data clearly indicate that there is a very strong association between high consumption levels and the proportion of consumption that occurs in particular venues. In particular, the proportion of total drinking that occurs when socializing with friends and when attending parties or other social gatherings is much higher among low-level consumers. Heavy drinkers, on the other hand, report a higher proportion of total alcohol consumption in bars and taverns and during quiet evenings at home.

Drinking at home accounts for 35% of total consumption among those who drink four or more times per week, compared to only 11% among those who drink less than once per month (Figure 10 and Table 11). Similarly, drinking at bars or taverns accounts for 15% of total consumption among those who drink two to three times per week, compared to 7% among those who drink less than once per month. On the other hand, drinking at parties accounts for only 7% of total consumption among those who drink four or more times a week, compared to 27% among those who drink less than once per month (Table 11).

Similar findings occur when heavy drinking is defined in terms of the number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey. Compared to those who did not have a drink in the week preceding the survey (14%), current drinkers who consumed 14 or more drinks (29%) consume a much higher proportion of their total consumption during quiet evenings at home. Furthermore, although drinking at bars or taverns accounts for 19% of total consumption among those who consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, it accounts for only 10% among those who did not have a drink. On the other hand, drinking at parties or social gatherings accounts for 22% of total consumption among those who did not have a drink in the week preceding the survey, compared to only 8% among those who consumed 14 or more drinks (Figure 11 and Table 12).

Figure 10:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption during quiet evenings at home in the year preceding the survey, by drinking frequency, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The data suggest that there is a particularly strong relationship between the frequency of heavy drinking and the proportion of total consumption in bars or taverns (Figure 12 and Table 13). For example, drinking in bars or taverns accounts for 27% of total consumption among those who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to only 6% among those who did not consume five or more drinks on a single occasion. On the other hand, compared to those who did not consume five or more drinks on a single occasion (19%), those who consumed five or more

Figure 11:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption in bars or taverns and at parties in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

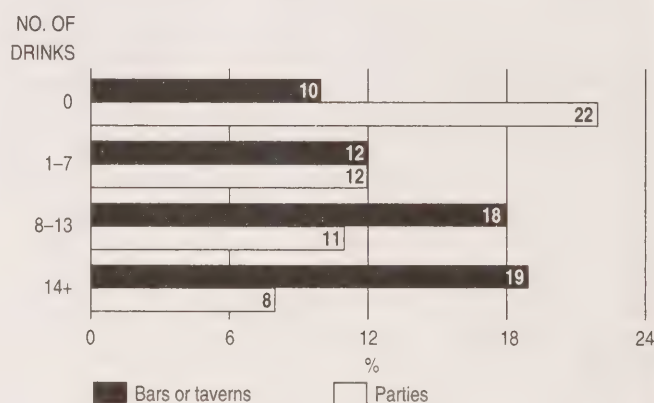
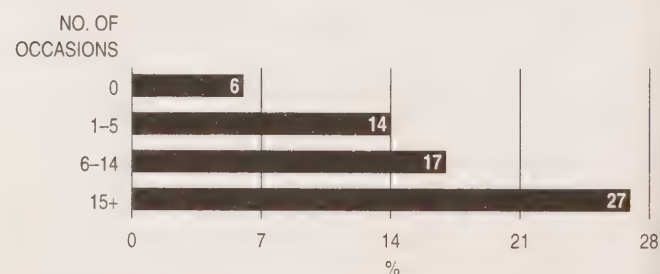


Figure 12:
Proportion of total alcohol consumption in bars or taverns in the year preceding the survey, by number of heavy drinking occasions, age 15+, Canada, 1989



drinks on 15 or more occasions (10%) consume a much lower proportion of their total consumption at parties or other social gatherings (Table 13).

Although heavy drinkers consume a higher proportion of their alcohol in bars or taverns, the data suggest that there is a negative relationship between heavy drinking activity and the proportion of total consumption in restaurants (Table 13). For example, drinking in restaurants accounts for 15% of total consumption among those who did not have five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, compared to 8% of those who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions.

Where Problem Drinkers Drink



All current drinkers were asked whether there was a time in the 12 months preceding the survey that their own alcohol consumption had caused a problem with their: a) friendships or social life; b) physical health; c) outlook on life or happiness; d) home life or marriage; e) work, studies or employment opportunities; and f) financial situation (Q36 in Appendix B) (see Chapter 5 for a detailed discussion).

The data clearly indicate that there is a strong association between alcohol-related problems and the proportion of consumption that occurs in particular venues (Table 14). In particular, those who report experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey consumed a higher proportion of their total alcohol consumption in bars and taverns (21%) than those who did not experience an alcohol-related problem (11%).

Part Five:

Social Settings and Marijuana Use

Definitions

Little previous research has addressed the issue of where people actually use illicit drugs. In fact, the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey is the first study to directly examine this question using Canadian data. All current marijuana users were asked if they had used marijuana in the year preceding the survey: a) at a bar or tavern; b) at a private home; c) at school/university; d) at a party or social gathering; e) at a concert, sports event or festival; or f) outdoors (while boating, camping, skiing, etc.) (Q65 in Appendix B).

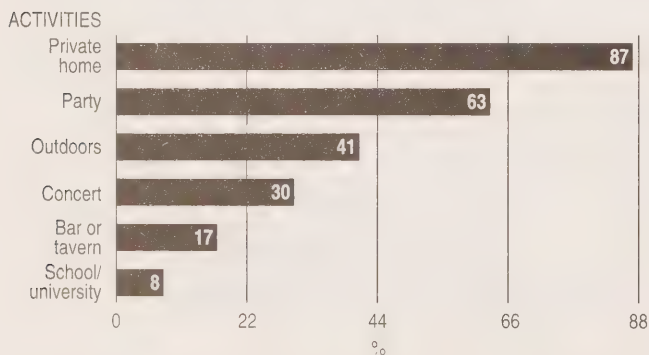
General Findings

The findings indicate that marijuana use is most likely to take place in private settings (Figure 13). The private nature of most marijuana use is obviously related to the fact that this drug is illegal in Canada. The great majority (86.6%) report that they used marijuana at a private home. The second most common venue for marijuana use is at parties or social gatherings (62.5%), followed by the outdoors (41.4%) and concerts or festivals (29.9%). Marijuana use is least likely to occur at a bar or tavern (17.3%) and at school

or university (7.6%). This pattern of use is consistent for men and women.

Small sample size and high sampling variability prevent further examination of the social characteristics of Canadians who use marijuana in various settings.

Figure 13:
Percentage of current marijuana users who used marijuana when participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Discussion

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that Canadians spend most of their leisure time, and do most of their drinking, in private rather than public settings. However, Canadians tend to drink more than usual when they go to bars or taverns and when they attend parties or other social gatherings. A moderate amount of alcohol consumption also takes place in restaurants, especially during evening meals. However, Canadians rarely drink when they engage in outdoor activities, participate in sports activities, attend a club or organizational meeting or go to a concert, sports event or festival.

The distribution of total drinking in different settings is related to certain social characteristics. Youth, men and single people consume a relatively high proportion of their total consumption in bars and taverns, whereas women, older people and those who are married consume a relatively greater share of their consumption at home, visiting friends and attending parties or social gatherings. Although income is not strongly related to drinking venue, low-income Canadians report consuming a higher share of their total alcohol consumption in bars and taverns. By contrast, high-income Canadians consume a relatively high proportion of their total alcohol intake in restaurants.

Of particular concern is the distributional pattern of drinking of heavy or high-risk alcohol consumers. The results of the survey suggest that heavy drinkers consume a high proportion of their total consumption in bars or taverns and during quiet evenings at home. By contrast, light drinkers consume a relatively high proportion of their total consumption while socializing with friends at home and when attending parties or other social gatherings.

These findings suggest that heavy drinkers not only seek out special drinking venues (e.g., bars or taverns) but are also likely to drink when engaged in normal, everyday activities (e.g., spending a quiet evening at home). By contrast, light drinkers tend to limit their drinking to special occasions (e.g., at parties or when socializing with friends or relatives).

Marijuana use is much more likely to take place in private (e.g., homes, parties, etc.) than public (e.g., bars, schools, etc.) settings. This is not surprising considering the illicit status of this drug.

Past Research



The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey are generally consistent with previous research. A number of U.S. surveys (Knupfer et al. 1963; Cahalan et al. 1969; Clark 1977; Clark 1985; Neuman and Rabow 1985–86; Clark 1988) and a recent study conducted in Ontario (Single 1988) confirm that North Americans consume most of their alcohol at home. Survey research conducted in Finland has also yielded similar results (Simpura 1981). However, drinking in the home setting may be less prevalent in Great Britain than in other western nations. Although the home is the most popular location for women, pubs are a more common setting for men (Dight 1976; Wilson 1980; Hunt and Satterlee 1987).

Sales data also provide results that are similar to the present survey findings (Statistics Canada 1987). For example, Canadian sales records indicate that about 22% of consumption occurs in licensed establishments, and the results of this survey indicate that 25% of total consumption occurs in licensed establishments.

Also at issue is whether or not socio-demographic differences are associated with variations in drinking settings. The literature on tavern drinking provides some evidence in this regard. Men, young adults and single persons have consistently been found to be the most likely to patronize bars and taverns (Clark 1966; Clark 1981a; Clark 1981b; Fisher 1981; Cosper et al. 1987; Single 1988).

However, socio-demographic variables other than sex, age and marital status are not strongly related to tavern patronage. Similar proportions of members of different ethnic, occupational and income groups are to be found in licensed establishments.

On the other hand, the factors associated with tavern-going are not necessarily those that relate most strongly to rates of drinking within the tavern setting. As one might expect, men tend to drink more than women. Age and marital status, however, are not clearly related to drinking rates. Although young and single persons are more likely to frequent taverns, they do not always drink more when they do.

Although socio-economic status is not strongly related to tavern-going, studies have found that manual workers and lower-income patrons tend to drink more in taverns (Plant et al. 1977; Plant 1978; Hunter et al. 1982). This may reflect the tendency of lower-income persons to drink in larger groups and the fact that drinking in large groups is associated with higher drinking rates.

Consistent with the results of the present survey, heavy drinking has also been found to be associated with particular drinking venues. In particular, various studies have established that going to bars and attending parties or celebrations are associated with increased levels of alcohol consumption (see review in Clark 1985; Single 1985).

Studies have also established that frequent bar patrons tend to be heavier-than-average drinkers (Cosper 1987; Single 1988; Clark 1988). In Ontario, group interviews with clinical alcoholics suggest that tavern drinking takes on an increasingly important role in the life of problem drinkers (Popham 1982). In the development of heavy drinking behaviour, the tavern may fill a void left in heavy drinkers' lives as they gradually become dissociated from family and friends. It would therefore be expected that the proportion of total drinking that takes place in bars and taverns would be likely to increase in relation to volume of total consumption. However, another possible explanation is that people who go to bars frequently become involved in a drinking culture that sanctions and promotes heavy drinking behaviour. Clearly, more research is required in order to determine the role of bar patronage in heavy drinking.

In conclusion, the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey firmly establish that there is a relationship between individual drinking practices and the situational distribution of consumption. The higher the level of drinking, the higher the relative share of total consumption that occurs in bars and

during solitary evenings at home. Given the import of situational factors in drinking behaviour, these findings are potentially significant to prevention programming and research.

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Table 1:
Frequency of participation in various social activities by current drinkers in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Frequency of participation (%)				
	Never	A few times per year	A few times per month	Once per week	More than once per week
Spend a quiet evening at home	*0.6	1.3	3.7	7.7	86.6
Spend time at someone else's home	4.1	19.1	38.3	23.1	15.3
Have friends or relatives visit	3.4	20.1	40.8	21.1	14.6
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	12.6	29.6	37.1	13.4	7.3
Go to a restaurant for lunch	42.0	20.8	19.0	7.3	10.9
Go to a bar or tavern	54.6	21.7	13.1	6.4	4.2
Go to a club or meeting	57.5	16.9	15.1	5.6	4.9
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	36.1	41.9	16.3	3.3	2.3
Engage in sports activities	41.9	18.9	16.5	10.1	12.5
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	15.9	68.8	12.9	1.8	*0.6
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	37.6	50.7	10.3	1.3	1.0

Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 2:
Frequency of participation in various social activities by abstainers in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Frequency of participation (%)				
	Never	A few times per year	A few times per month	Once per week	More than once per week
Spend a quiet evening at home	—	*1.1	3.5	6.8	88.2
Spend time at someone else's home	8.3	20.4	33.7	22.3	15.3
Have friends or relatives visit	4.7	18.8	34.5	22.2	19.9
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	28.2	29.2	26.7	10.1	5.7
Go to a restaurant for lunch	47.2	21.0	17.4	8.1	6.2
Go to a bar or tavern	92.3	5.0	1.7	—	—
Go to a club or meeting	63.8	10.7	14.1	6.6	4.8
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	51.3	34.3	10.3	2.7	*1.3
Engage in sports activities	63.0	13.4	11.1	5.6	6.9
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	25.8	61.0	10.9	*1.7	—
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	47.6	42.5	7.7	*1.4	—

Sample size (N) = 2,872 Pop. est. (000s) = 4,531

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:

Frequency of drinking while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey and usual number of drinks consumed per occasion,^a age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Frequency of drinking (%)					Mean no. of drinks per occasion
			Never	Less than half the time	About half the time	More than half the time	Always	
Spend a quiet evening at home	8,651	15,531	55.0	33.8	5.4	2.2	3.6	2.00
Spend time at someone else's home	8,354	14,975	25.5	42.1	16.3	7.0	9.1	2.11
Have friends or relatives visit	8,446	15,085	26.2	38.9	16.2	7.0	11.7	2.17
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	7,477	13,635	29.4	27.1	13.4	7.1	23.0	1.61
Go to a restaurant for lunch	5,311	9,061	77.4	14.0	3.7	1.5	3.4	1.30
Go to a bar or tavern	4,305	7,091	3.1	9.1	6.7	8.8	72.3	3.35
Go to a club or meeting	4,092	6,635	64.1	16.3	5.9	2.6	11.1	2.06
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5,784	9,972	29.2	34.0	13.7	8.0	15.0	3.09
Engage in sports activities	4,953	9,049	69.3	16.0	6.0	2.9	5.8	2.22
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	7,454	13,139	7.9	18.5	11.3	9.9	52.5	3.17
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	5,583	9,876	66.7	16.3	6.1	2.7	8.2	2.59

^a Excludes current drinkers who never participate in the activity

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by region, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Canada	Atlantic provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie provinces	British Columbia
Spend a quiet evening at home	18.1	20.1	16.3	19.6	15.8	19.9
Spend time at someone else's home	14.7	14.9	16.5	13.5	14.7	13.9
Have friends or relatives visit	15.5	14.2	18.2	14.0	15.3	15.3
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	11.3	5.6	14.5	10.8	9.0	13.1
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.4	1.0	1.7	1.3	0.9	1.7
Go to a bar or tavern	11.9	14.1	11.3	9.9	14.5	14.0
Go to a club or meeting	2.1	3.7	1.8	2.3	1.8	1.8
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.3	6.7	4.1	6.5	5.0	3.5
Engage in sports activities	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.5	3.7	2.1
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	15.9	16.4	12.3	18.1	18.1	13.6
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.0
Total (%)	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9
Sample size (N)	8,760	2,617	1,372	1,549	2,286	936
Pop. est. (000s)	15,752	1,218	3,999	5,812	2,741	1,982

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 5:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Total 15+	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Spend a quiet evening at home	18.1	6.1	8.3	16.8	22.3	22.4	23.7	24.7
Spend time at someone else's home	14.7	17.0	14.6	15.0	14.6	12.6	14.0	15.8
Have friends or relatives visit	15.5	12.5	11.5	15.3	15.3	15.5	18.2	21.7
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	11.3	5.5	9.0	11.6	12.8	14.9	11.7	10.0
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.4	0.3	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.5	2.2
Go to a bar or tavern	11.9	21.0	27.3	13.7	8.2	7.4	3.3	2.2
Go to a club or meeting	2.1	1.4	1.8	1.5	1.8	3.6	2.5	3.4
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.3	4.8	6.1	5.6	5.2	5.3	4.8	4.2
Engage in sports activities	2.5	2.4	3.3	3.4	2.7	1.8	1.1	1.3
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	15.9	27.1	15.2	14.6	14.5	13.3	18.1	14.1
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.3	1.9	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.0	0.5
Total (%)	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.1	99.9	100.0	99.9	100.1
Sample size (N)	8,760	610	925	2,634	1,912	1,013	787	879
Pop. est. (000s)	15,752	1,385	1,787	4,061	3,293	2,065	1,683	1,477

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 6:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	< \$10,000	\$10,000-\$19,999	\$20,000-\$39,999	\$40,000-\$59,999	\$60,000+
Spend a quiet evening at home	17.0	17.7	19.8	18.8	16.7
Spend time at someone else's home	16.9	16.4	14.6	13.9	14.2
Have friends or relatives visit	15.6	17.4	16.3	15.3	14.6
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	7.4	9.1	10.9	12.4	14.7
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.4	2.0
Go to a bar or tavern	16.0	13.9	11.2	9.9	11.9
Go to a club or meeting	1.7	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.2
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	3.3	3.3	5.8	6.0	5.3
Engage in sports activities	1.1	1.6	2.3	2.8	3.8
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	18.6	16.2	14.9	15.7	13.1
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.7	1.4
Total (%)	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.0	99.9
Sample size (N)	474	1,384	2,773	1,859	1,271
Pop. est. (000s)	569	1,892	4,477	3,788	3,041

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 7:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Less than secondary	Secondary completed	Some post-secondary non-university degree	University degree
Spend a quiet evening at home	20.5	17.9	15.2	19.2
Spend time at someone else's home	14.7	14.4	14.7	15.4
Have friends or relatives visit	16.8	15.8	14.1	15.3
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	7.8	11.0	12.5	16.1
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.0	1.2	1.5	2.1
Go to a bar or tavern	9.8	12.7	15.0	9.0
Go to a club or meeting	2.3	2.2	1.7	2.3
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.6	5.3	5.1	4.7
Engage in sports activities	1.6	2.8	2.8	3.2
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	18.8	15.4	16.0	11.5
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2
Total (%)	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sample size (N)	2,605	2,474	2,260	1,363
Pop. est. (000s)	4,434	4,604	4,092	2,498

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Manager/professional	Other white collar	Blue collar	Looking for work	Student	Keeping house	Retired
Spend a quiet evening at home	19.4	16.0	21.0	17.1	7.1	18.8	25.0
Spend time at someone else's home	13.5	14.1	14.0	17.1	16.9	15.4	15.8
Have friends or relatives visit	15.2	14.7	14.2	12.8	12.4	19.8	20.6
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	14.7	13.1	8.5	5.0	7.1	14.0	9.5
Go to a restaurant for lunch	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.8	1.5	1.8	4.2
Go to a bar or tavern	9.8	12.7	15.3	16.7	22.3	5.1	2.3
Go to a club or meeting	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.8	1.5	1.8	4.2
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	4.8	5.3	6.2	7.4	4.8	4.7	5.0
Engage in sports activities	3.4	2.3	3.3	2.1	2.4	1.0	1.2
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	13.5	16.8	13.5	16.4	22.9	17.5	14.8
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.8	2.0	0.7	0.2
Total (%)	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0
Sample size (N)	2,019	1,846	1,798	239	811	1,041	868
Pop. est. (000s)	3,524	3,325	3,227	384	1,751	1,731	1,528

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:
Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Never married
Spend a quiet evening at home	22.4	17.3	16.7	18.2	10.1
Spend time at someone else's home	14.1	14.8	13.2	19.8	15.4
Have friends or relatives visit	17.0	15.9	15.7	22.0	11.8
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	11.7	13.8	14.1	13.5	9.6
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.5	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.0
Go to a bar or tavern	6.4	14.8	14.8	2.6	23.1
Go to a club or meeting	2.3	1.9	2.5	2.5	1.7
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.5	4.4	4.5	2.9	5.2
Engage in sports activities	2.4	2.9	2.1	0.6	3.1
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	15.6	11.7	13.7	15.4	17.2
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.6	1.7
Total (%)	100.0	100.1	100.0	99.9	99.9
Sample size (N)	4,774	356	534	486	2,605
Pop. est. (000s)	9,294	455	718	609	4,667

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 10:
Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	English	French	Other
Spend a quiet evening at home	18.5	16.3	21.7
Spend time at someone else's home	14.3	16.6	14.7
Have friends or relatives visit	14.5	18.7	15.3
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	10.4	14.4	8.3
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.3	1.6	0.9
Go to a bar or tavern	12.2	11.1	10.4
Go to a club or meeting	2.2	1.9	1.9
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.7	4.4	2.2
Engage in sports activities	2.8	1.8	1.5
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	16.9	12.1	20.9
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.2	1.2	2.1
Total (%)	100.0	100.1	99.9
Sample size (N)	7,028	1,488	193
Pop. est. (000s)	11,186	3,785	673

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by drinking frequency, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Less than once per month	1–3 times per month	Once per week	2–3 times per week	4+ times per week
Spend a quiet evening at home	11.3	15.1	16.9	22.1	35.1
Spend time at someone else's home	16.4	15.8	14.7	13.3	10.9
Have friends or relatives visit	17.6	16.2	14.6	14.1	13.6
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	11.9	12.4	11.4	10.1	9.6
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.8	2.2
Go to a bar or tavern	6.8	12.6	15.0	15.1	10.4
Go to a club or meeting	1.7	1.7	2.6	2.6	2.4
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	4.7	5.9	5.5	5.2	4.5
Engage in sports activities	0.7	2.3	3.4	3.9	2.8
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	27.1	15.7	12.8	10.3	7.4
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	0.9	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.0
Total (%)	100.1	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.9
Sample size (N)	2,435	2,274	1,658	1,578	766
Pop. est. (000s)	4,078	3,871	2,935	3,099	1,684

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	0 drinks	1–7 drinks	8–13 drinks	14+ drinks
Spend a quiet evening at home	14.1	20.2	20.8	29.0
Spend time at someone else's home	15.3	14.9	13.0	11.8
Have friends or relatives visit	16.6	15.8	12.4	10.8
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	11.9	12.0	8.6	7.0
Go to a restaurant for lunch	0.9	1.7	2.0	1.5
Go to a bar or tavern	9.6	11.9	17.8	19.2
Go to a club or meeting	1.8	2.3	3.3	2.0
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.4	5.0	5.7	5.2
Engage in sports activities	1.8	2.9	3.9	3.6
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	21.5	11.9	10.9	8.2
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.6
Total (%)	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.9
Sample size (N)	4,329	3,172	690	569
Pop. est. (000s)	7,376	6,017	1,184	1,174

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:
Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities, by number of times current drinkers consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Never	1-5 times	6-14 times	15+ times
Spend a quiet evening at home	17.1	19.1	19.4	18.6
Spend time at someone else's home	15.7	14.5	13.6	12.1
Have friends or relatives visit	18.1	14.2	12.1	11.2
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	13.8	10.5	8.4	6.2
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.4
Go to a bar or tavern	5.7	13.7	17.2	27.2
Go to a club or meeting	2.1	2.1	2.6	2.0
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	4.5	5.8	6.8	5.7
Engage in sports activities	1.3	3.5	4.1	3.6
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	19.3	13.9	12.8	9.9
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.1
Total (%)	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0
Sample size (N)	4,111	2,491	957	1,201
Pop. est. (000s)	7,770	4,424	1,555	2,002

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 14:
Mean proportion of total alcohol consumption while participating in various social activities, by whether or not current drinkers experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Activity	Had a problem	Did not have a problem
Spend a quiet evening at home	18.0	18.2
Spend time at someone else's home	14.1	14.7
Have friends or relatives visit	11.9	16.0
Go to a restaurant for an evening meal	8.1	11.8
Go to a restaurant for lunch	1.2	1.4
Go to a bar or tavern	20.7	10.6
Go to a club or meeting	1.8	2.2
Engage in outdoor leisure activities	5.4	5.2
Engage in sports activities	3.1	2.5
Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	13.9	16.2
Go to a concert, sports event or festival	1.8	1.2
Total (%)	100.0	100.0
Sample size (N)	1,137	7,623
Pop. est. (000s)	1,935	13,816

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

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Highlights

Part One: Problems with One's Own Alcohol Use



- Twenty-one percent of current drinkers (approximately 3.4 million Canadians) report that they have experienced an alcohol-related problem at some time in their lives. Twelve percent of current drinkers reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey.
- Health-related problems appear to be the most common consequence of alcohol use. Twelve percent of current drinkers have experienced alcohol-related problems with their physical health at some time in their lives. Seven percent reported experiencing such complications in the year prior to the survey.
- Problems with friendships or social life represent the next most common consequence of alcohol use. Eleven percent of Canadian drinkers report experiencing such difficulties at some time in their lives, 5% in the year preceding the survey.
- The incidence of each type of alcohol-related problem is significantly higher among men than women. Overall, one out of four male drinkers (25%) reports experiencing an alcohol-related problem at some time in their lives, compared to 15% of female drinkers. Fifteen percent of male drinkers reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to 10% of female drinkers.
- The incidence of alcohol-related problems declines sharply with age for both men and women.
- There is little provincial variation in the overall prevalence of alcohol-related problems.
- Current drinkers in the second highest and lowest educational categories are most likely to report that their drinking has yielded negative consequences.
- Low-income earners are most likely to report financial and work-related difficulties related to their alcohol use.
- The data suggest that students, those who are looking for work and blue-collar workers are the most susceptible to alcohol-related problems.
- In terms of marital status, Canadians who are either single (never married) or separated are most likely to have an alcohol-related problem.
- Although Anglophones and Francophones are equally likely to experience an alcohol-related problem, there is some difference with respect to the type of problems that they report. In particular, French-speaking drinkers are more likely to report health-related difficulties, whereas English-speaking drinkers are slightly more likely to report problems with friends.
- There is a strong positive relationship between the experience of life stress and the occurrence of alcohol-related problems.
- The data show that there is a positive relationship between drinking frequency and the incidence of alcohol-related problems.
- There is a particularly strong association between alcohol-related problems and the frequency of heavy drinking. For example, four out of ten Canadians (40%) who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey also reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey. By contrast, only 4% of current drinkers who did not consume five or more drinks on a single occasion reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey.

Part Two: Drinking and Driving



- The data suggest that, in the year preceding the survey, approximately three million Canadians (19% of current drinkers) operated a motor vehicle at least once after consuming two or more alcoholic beverages during the previous hour.
- Men (27%) are three times more likely than women (9%) to report drinking and driving. Men also drink and drive much more frequently than women. One out of seven men (15%) reported drinking and driving on three or more occasions in the year preceding the survey, compared to one out of 33 women (3%).
- Drinking and driving is much more prevalent among younger than older Canadians. For example, 27% of current drinkers between 25 and 34 years of age report driving after consuming two or more drinks during the previous hour, compared to 9% of 55 to 64 year olds and 5% of those 65 years of age and older.
- Drinking and driving appears to be most prevalent in the Prairie provinces and Quebec.
- There is a positive relationship between income and drinking and driving. Those in the highest income category (25%) are most likely to report drinking and driving, whereas those in the lowest income category are least likely to report this type of behaviour (14%).
- Drinking and driving is more prevalent among those who are employed than among students or those who are looking for work.
- The data suggest that drinking and driving is more common among Francophones than Anglophones.
- The more often people drink, the more likely they are to drink and drive.
- The data suggest that there is an especially strong relationship between going to bars and drinking and driving.

Part Three: Contact with Police Because of Alcohol Use



- The data suggest that over one million Canadians (7% of current drinkers) have been in contact with the police because of their alcohol use. Men (12%) are six times more likely than women (2%) to report such an experience.
- Contact with police because of drinking is much more common among younger than older Canadians.
- There is a negative relationship between contact with police and both education and income.
- Blue-collar workers and those looking for work are most likely to report that they have been in contact with police because of their drinking.
- English-speaking drinkers (8%) are twice as likely as French-speaking drinkers (4%) to report that they have had contact with police because of their alcohol consumption.
- Heavy drinkers are more likely to have had contact with police than low to moderate drinkers. For example, one out of four drinkers (25%) who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey report that they had contact with the police, compared to only one out of 50 current drinkers (2%) who did not drink at this level.

Part Four: Problems Caused by Other People's Alcohol Use



- The data indicate that four out of five Canadians (78%) have, at some point in their lives, experienced a problem as a result of someone else's drinking. Almost half of the population (45%) experienced a problem as a result of someone else's drinking in the year preceding the survey.

- Over one-half of all Canadians (52%) report that they have been insulted at some time in their lives by someone who has been drinking, and 48% report having been disturbed by people drinking at a party. The relevant figures are 21% and 26%, respectively, for the 12 months preceding the survey.
- More than one-third (36%) of Canadians report having been in serious arguments or quarrels as a result of someone else's drinking, 17% in the year preceding the survey. At some time in their lives, a sizeable minority of Canadians (37%) also report that they have been a passenger in a motor vehicle with a drunk driver, 10% in the year preceding the survey.
- At some point in their lives, 21% of Canadians have had family problems because of others' drinking, 8% in the year preceding the survey. One-fifth (20%) report that they have been physically assaulted, at some time in their lives, by someone who had been drinking. Seven percent of the population reported that this problem occurred in the 12 months prior to the survey.
- Sixteen percent of Canadians have lost friends due to the friends' drinking, 6% in the year prior to the survey. Eight percent of the population report having had their property vandalized by someone who had been drinking, and 5% report that they have experienced financial difficulties because of the drinking of others. For the year preceding the survey, these figures are 3% and 2%, respectively. Finally, 7% of Canadians report that they have been in a traffic accident caused by another's drinking, 1% in the year preceding the survey.
- Women (28%) are more likely than men (14%) to report that they have experienced marital or family problems as a result of someone else's drinking. Women (7%) are also twice as likely as men (3%) to report that they have experienced financial difficulties as a result of someone else's drinking.
- Men (24%) are somewhat more likely than women (16%) to report that they have been physically assaulted by someone who had been drinking. Almost one in ten men (9%) reported being physically assaulted in the year preceding the survey, compared to one out of 20 women (5%).
- The likelihood of having experienced a problem in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking decreases with age. For example, 41% of 20 to 24 year olds reported that, in the year preceding the survey, they were insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking, compared to 21% of 35 to 44 year olds and only 5% of those who are 65 years of age and older.
- Current drinkers are more likely to experience problems caused by other people's drinking than both former drinkers and lifetime abstainers.
- The frequency of heavy drinking episodes is also positively related to the likelihood of experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking behaviour. For example, 39% of those who consumed five or more drinks on seven or more occasions in the year preceding the survey reported that they had been insulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to only 18% of those who never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion. Similarly, 33% of those who consumed five or more drinks on seven or more occasions in the year preceding the survey reported that they had been a passenger in a car with a drunk driver, compared to only 6% of those who never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion.
- The data indicate that people who have experienced problems as a result of their own alcohol use are at higher risk of experiencing problems with other people's alcohol use as well. Three out of four current drinkers (73%) who experienced a problem with their own alcohol use in the year preceding the survey also report experiencing a problem as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 45% of those who did not experience a problem with their own alcohol consumption.

Part Five: Network Members' Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Use



- The data suggest that seven out of ten Canadians (approximately 14 million people) know someone who has had a drinking problem. Canadians are most likely to report alcohol-related problems among their relatives (45%), followed by their friends (41%) and co-workers (31%). Only 4% of Canadians report that their spouse or partner has had a drinking problem.
- Overall, Canadians in the middle age categories are more likely to report alcohol-related problems among members of their social network than those in either the youngest or oldest categories.
- Current drinkers (72%) are more likely to know someone with a drinking problem than both former drinkers (61%) and lifetime abstainers (51%).
- The data also suggest that the likelihood of knowing someone with a drinking problem is positively associated with one's own level of alcohol consumption.
- Canadians who have experienced problems with their own alcohol use are more likely to know someone else with a drinking problem than those who have not experienced such difficulties. For example, 84% of those who had a problem with their own use in the year preceding the survey report knowing someone with an alcohol-related problem, compared to 69% of those who did not have a problem.
- The data suggest that 33% of adult Canadians (approximately seven million people) know someone with a drug abuse problem. More than one out of five Canadians (22%) has a friend with a drug abuse problem. One out of seven (14%) has a relative with a drug abuse problem, and one out of ten (11%) knows a co-worker with such a problem. Only 1% of Canadians report that their spouse or partner has a drug abuse problem.

- A slightly higher percentage of women than men report that they have a relative with a drug abuse problem. On the other hand, men are more likely than women to report that they have a friend or a co-worker with a drug problem.
- The likelihood of knowing someone with a drug abuse problem decreases with age.
- The data suggest that the likelihood of knowing someone with a drug abuse problem is highest in British Columbia (39%) and lowest in Newfoundland (24%). All other provinces are within two percentage points of the national rate (33%).
- Canadians who are current users of either alcohol or illicit drugs are significantly more likely to know someone with a drug problem than both former users and lifetime abstainers.

Part Six: Perception of Community-Level Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Use



- Three out of five Canadians (61%) report that their community or neighbourhood suffers from some type of drug- or alcohol-related problem. The data suggest that drinking and driving is the most common community-level problem. Almost half of Canadians (44%) feel that drinking and driving exists in their community enough for them to be concerned.
- Illegal drug use is apparently the second most commonly mentioned community-level problem. Over one-third of the population (34%) maintain that illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drug use is a serious problem in their neighbourhood or community.
- Three out of ten Canadians (28%) maintain that their community suffers from alcohol-related health problems, followed by family conflicts related to alcohol use (27%), public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use (26%) and the misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs (24%). Almost as many Canadians (21%) feel that their community has problems in the workplace as a result of alcohol use.

Introduction

Alcohol and other drug use are not risk-free activities. In addition to serious medical consequences, birth defects, and traffic accidents, alcohol and other drugs have been linked to aggression, crime, marital discord, depression and job loss (see reviews in National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 1990; Bucholz and Robins 1989; Maris 1988). Furthermore, alcohol- and other drug-related consequences affect not only the users of these substances themselves, but also their spouses, children, friends and employers, as well as strangers with whom they may come into contact. The negative impact that alcohol- and other drug-related problems have on our quality of life is paralleled by considerable economic cost. In Canada, the excess cost of health care due to alcohol abuse has been estimated at \$6 billion in 1984. Estimates of costs resulting from reduced productivity, social welfare and law enforcement reached an additional \$5.6 billion (Adrian et al. 1988).

The 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey is the first study to investigate directly the prevalence of various alcohol- and other drug-related problems among the general Canadian population. Unfortunately, the small size of the population reporting the use of both licit and illicit drugs precluded detailed questioning of respondents about the problems they might have experienced as a result of their own drug taking. Thus, most of this chapter focuses on the negative consequences of alcohol use. The chapter has been divided into six sections:

- 1) Problems with One's Own Alcohol Use
- 2) Drinking and Driving
- 3) Contact with Police Because of Alcohol Use
- 4) Problems Caused by Other People's Alcohol Use
- 5) Network Members' Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Use
- 6) Perception of Community-Level Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Part One: Problems with One's Own Alcohol Use

Definitions

When studying the negative consequences of alcohol use, it is customary to differentiate between alcoholism and problem drinking (Cohen 1983:124). An *alcoholic* has been defined as an excessive drinker who has lost control of his/her drinking and whose physical and psychological dependence on alcohol is so extreme that there is noticeable interference with his/her bodily or mental health, social and economic functioning and interpersonal relations (Snyder 1980:132).

Unlike alcoholism, *problem drinking* does not necessarily involve physical or psychological dependence on alcohol. Rather, problem drinking refers to difficulties in living (e.g., marital, friendship, job, financial or health problems) that were brought on by alcohol use (Cohen 1983:124). Problem drinking can thus be the result of a single episode of heavy drinking as well as long-term alcohol abuse. It must be stressed that the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey provide estimates of problem drinking in Canada — they do not provide estimates of alcoholism. Although most alcoholics will be identified as problem drinkers, most problem drinkers are not alcoholics.

All current drinkers (i.e., those who had consumed at least one alcoholic beverage in the year preceding the survey) were asked if there had ever been a time that they felt their own alcohol use had a harmful effect on their: a) friendships or social life; b) physical health; c) outlook on life or happiness; d) home life or marriage; e) work, studies or employment opportunities; and f) financial position (Q36 in Appendix B).

As the survey asked only current drinkers (and not other respondents) about the problems they had experienced as a result of their own alcohol use, we do not have information about the extent to which all Canadians have "ever" experienced problems with their own alcohol use. In particular, we do not know if former drinkers (i.e., those who had stopped drinking at least 12 months preceding the survey) had experi-

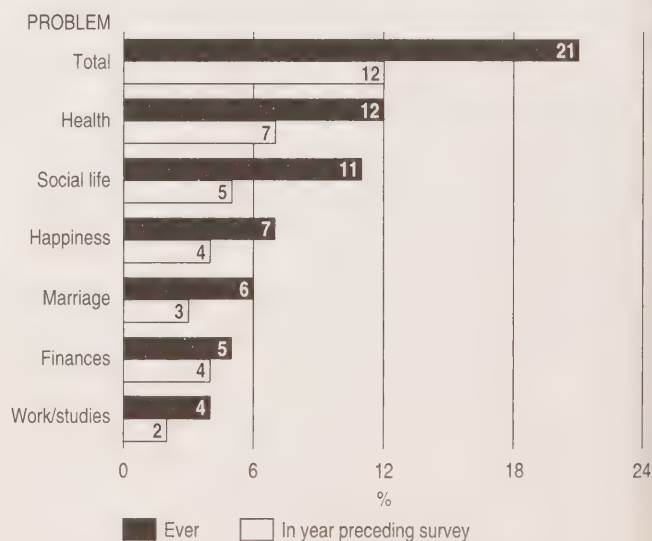
enced alcohol-related problems in the past. However, because current drinkers include all those who reported consuming at least one drink in the year preceding the survey, we are able to estimate the percentage of all Canadians (as well as the percentage of current drinkers) who experienced alcohol-related problems in the year preceding the survey.

General Findings

Twenty-one percent of current drinkers (approximately 3.4 million adult Canadians) report that they have experienced an alcohol-related problem at some time in their lives (Figure 1 and Table 1). Twelve percent of current drinkers reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey (Table 2). This represents 10% of the total adult population, or approximately 1.8 million Canadians.

Health difficulties appear to be the most common consequence of heavy drinking behaviour (Figure 1).

Figure 1:
Percentage of current drinkers who have experienced specific alcohol-related problems, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Twelve percent of current drinkers (approximately 1.8 million Canadians) report that they have experienced a problem with their physical health as a result of their alcohol consumption (Table 1). Seven percent of current drinkers reported experiencing alcohol-related health problems in the year preceding the survey (Table 2). This represents 5% of the total adult population, or approximately 1.1 million Canadians.

Problems with one's friendships or social life are the next most common consequence of alcohol use (Figure 1). Eleven percent of Canadian drinkers (approximately 1.7 million people) report experiencing such difficulties at some time in their lives (Table 1). Five percent of current drinkers reported experiencing such problems in the year preceding the survey (Table 2). This represents 4% of the total adult population, or approximately 740,000 Canadians.

Seven percent of current drinkers (approximately 1.1 million Canadians) report that their alcohol use has negatively affected their outlook on life or happiness (Figure 1 and Table 1). Four percent of current drinkers reported that they experienced such a problem in the year prior to the survey (Figure 1 and Table 2). This represents 3% of the total adult population, or approximately 550,000 Canadians.

The data clearly suggest that alcohol use can also have a negative impact on marriage and family life (Figure 1). Six percent of current drinkers (approximately 870,000 Canadians) report that they have experienced problems with their marriage or home life as a result of their drinking (Table 1). Three percent of current drinkers reported that they experienced such a problem in the year preceding the survey (Table 2). This represents 2% of the total adult population, or approximately 470,000 Canadians.

Alcohol use has also created financial problems for some Canadians (Figure 1). Five percent of current drinkers (approximately 740,000 Canadians) report that they have had financial difficulties as a result of their drinking behaviour (Table 1). Four percent of current drinkers reported experiencing financial difficulties in the year preceding the survey (Table 2). This represents 3% of the total adult population, or approximately 550,000 Canadians.

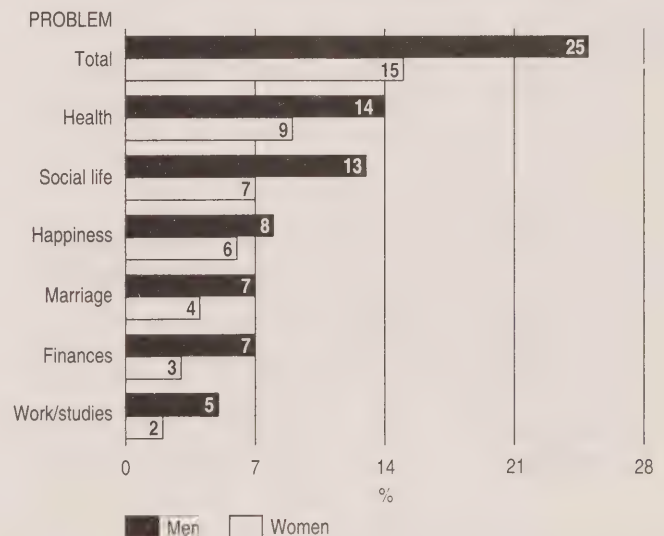
The findings also indicate that alcohol use can disrupt work and/or educational activities (Figure 1). Four percent of current drinkers (approximately 550,000 Canadians) report that their drinking has caused problems with their work, studies or employment opportunities (Table 1). Two percent of current drinkers (or approximately 315,000 Canadians) reported experiencing such a problem in the year preceding the survey (Table 2).

Sex

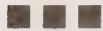


The incidence of each type of alcohol-related problem is significantly higher among men than women (Figure 2). Overall, one out of four male drinkers (25%) reports experiencing an alcohol-related problem at some time in their lives, compared to 15% of female drinkers (Table 1). Similarly, 15% of male drinkers reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to 10% of female drinkers (Table 2). These findings are consistent with the fact that male drinkers consume alcohol more frequently and in greater quantity than their female counterparts (see Chapter 1).

Figure 2:
Percentage of current drinkers who have "ever" experienced various alcohol-related problems, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Age



The incidence of alcohol-related problems declines sharply with age for both men and women (Figure 3 and Table 2). For example, 24% of 15 to 19 year olds experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, followed by 20 to 24 year olds (23%), 25 to 34 year olds (13%), 35 to 44 year olds (11%), 45 to 54 year olds (8%), 55 to 64 year olds (5%) and those 65 years of age and older (4%).

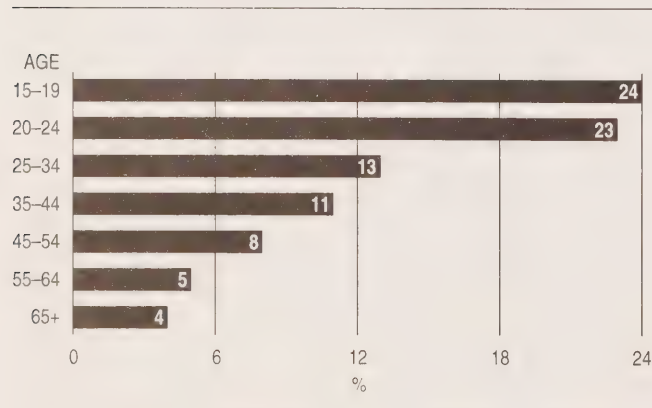
Not only are younger drinkers more likely to report recent difficulties, they are also more likely to report "ever" having experienced an alcohol-related problem (Table 1). For example, 29% of 20 to 24 year olds report experiencing an alcohol-related problem at some time in their lives, compared to only 13% of 55 to 64 year olds and 10% of those 65 years of age and older. It is possible that older drinkers do not remember the alcohol-related problems they experienced in their youth, or perhaps they just do not want to talk about these experiences. On the other hand, it is also possible that young people today consume considerably more alcohol than the members of previous generations and are thus more likely to have experienced various kinds of alcohol-related problems.

Region



There is little provincial variation in the overall prevalence of alcohol-related problems (Table 3).

Figure 3:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Alberta (14%), Manitoba (14%), Prince Edward Island (14%), Newfoundland (14%), Saskatchewan (14%), Nova Scotia (13%), Quebec (13%), British Columbia (13%) and New Brunswick (13%) are all slightly above the national rate (12%). Ontario (11%) is the only province that falls below the national rate.

Education



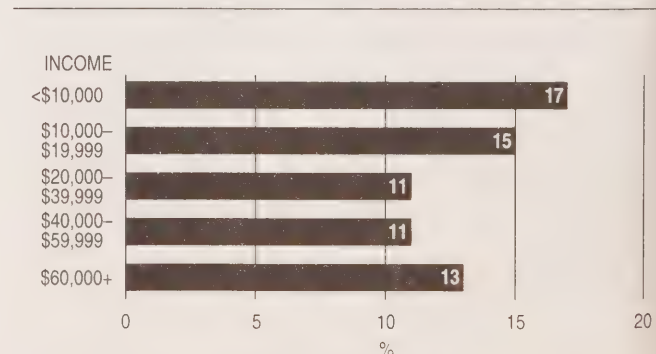
The data suggest that there is an inconsistent relationship between education and the incidence of alcohol-related problems (Table 4). Current drinkers in the second highest and lowest educational categories are most likely to report that their drinking has yielded negative consequences. For example, 14% of drinkers with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree and those with less than a secondary school education reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, followed by those who have completed high school (12%) and those with a university degree (9%). Nevertheless, it is important to note that current drinkers with a university degree are less likely than those with lower levels of education to report each type of problem (Table 4).

Income



Current drinkers with low household incomes are slightly more likely to report drinking consequences than those with high incomes (Figure 4 and Table 5).

Figure 4:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

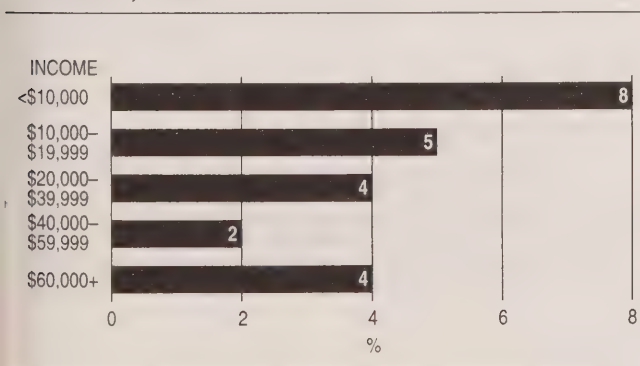


For example, 17% of those in households earning less than \$10,000 per year reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to 15% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999, 11% of those in households earning between \$20,000 and \$39,999, 11% of those in households earning between \$40,000 and \$59,999 and 13% of those in households earning \$60,000 a year or more.

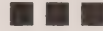
The data suggest that low-income earners are especially inclined to report financial and work-related difficulties related to their alcohol use (Figure 5 and Table 5). For example, 8% of those in households earning less than \$10,000 a year report that their drinking had a negative impact on their financial position, compared to 2% of those in households earning between \$40,000 and \$59,999 and 4% of those in households earning \$60,000 a year or more.

As with education, the negative relationship between income and alcohol-related problems is not totally consistent. Although drinkers in the highest income category are less likely to report a problem than those in the two lowest income groups, they are actually more likely to report a problem than those in the two middle-income categories (Table 5). This suggests that the drinking practices associated with certain high-paying occupations may, in some cases, actually increase the risk of developing an alcohol-related problem (see discussion of occupational variation below).

Figure 5:
Percentage of current drinkers who feel that their drinking caused financial problems in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Employment Status



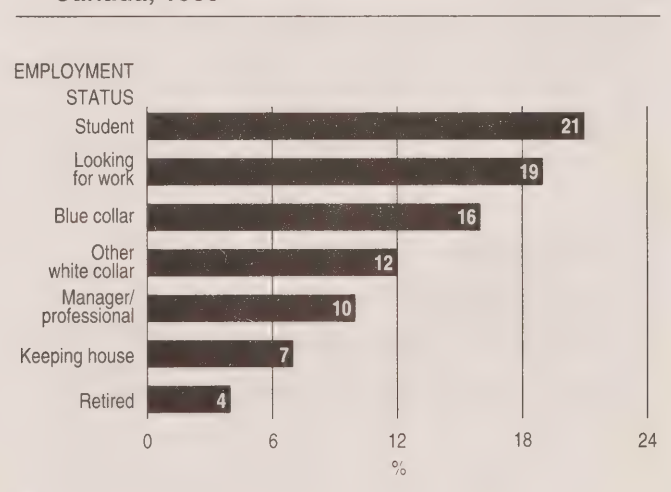
The data suggest that students, those who are looking for work and blue-collar workers are the most susceptible to alcohol-related problems (Figure 6 and Table 6). One out of five student drinkers (21%) reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, followed closely by those who are either looking for work (19%) or employed in blue-collar occupations (16%). All other groups fall at or below the national rate (12%). Nevertheless, those who are employed in either managerial/professional occupations (10%) or other white-collar occupations (12%) are at significantly greater risk of developing an alcohol-related problem than homemakers (7%) and those who are retired (4%).

Marital Status



Canadians who are either single (never married) or separated are most likely to have an alcohol-related problem (Table 7). One out of five single drinkers (22%) reported that they experienced a problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to 17% of those who are separated, 10% of those who are divorced, 8% of those who are married and 7% of those who are widowed.

Figure 6:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Language

The data suggest that French- and English-speaking drinkers are more likely to experience an alcohol-related problem than those who speak another language (Table 8). An equal proportion of French-speaking and English-speaking drinkers (13%) reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to only 6% of those who speak another language.

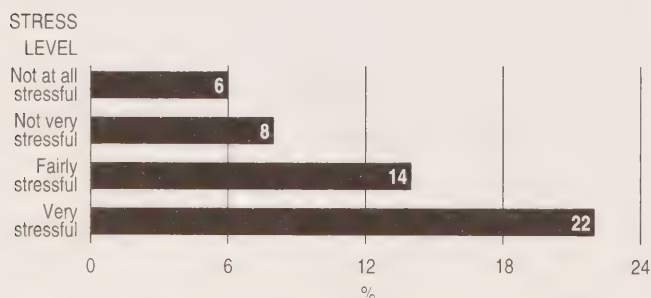
Although Anglophones and Francophones are equally likely to experience an alcohol-related problem, there is some difference with respect to the type of problems that they report (Table 8). In particular, French-speaking drinkers (10%) are slightly more likely than their English counterparts (7%) to report health-related difficulties, whereas English-speaking drinkers are slightly more likely to report problems with friends (5% vs. 4%).

Life Stress

All respondents were asked to describe their lives in the 12 months preceding the survey. Response options were: a) very stressful; b) fairly stressful; c) not very stressful; and d) not at all stressful (Q3 in Appendix B).

The findings suggest that there is a strong positive relationship between the experience of life stress and the occurrence of alcohol-related problems

Figure 7:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by stress level, age 15+, Canada, 1989



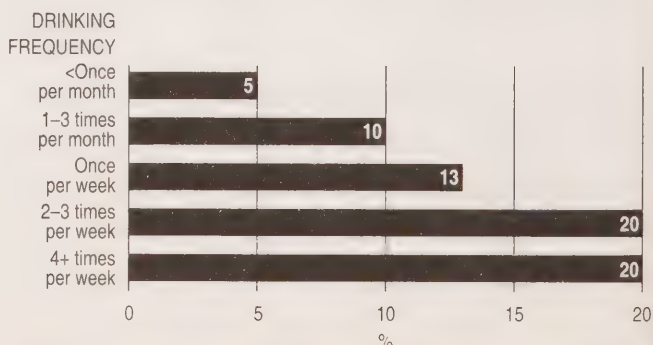
(Figure 7 and Table 9). For example, 22% of the drinkers who had recently had a very stressful life reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to 14% of those who had fairly stressful lives, 8% of those whose lives had not been very stressful and only 6% of those whose lives had not been stressful at all. However, because respondents were interviewed at one time only, it is impossible to determine the nature of the association between life stress and alcohol-related problems.

Level of Consumption

The findings clearly indicate that there is a positive relationship between drinking frequency and the incidence of alcohol-related problems (Figure 8 and Table 10). For example, one out of five drinkers (20%) who consume alcohol four or more times per week reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to only 5% of those who drink less than once per month.

The incidence of alcohol-related problems is also strongly related to the number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey (Figure 9 and Table 11). For example, 33% of those who consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to 25% of those who had between eight and 13 drinks,

Figure 8:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by drinking frequency, age 15+, Canada, 1989



11% of those who had between one and seven drinks and only 8% of those who did not have a drink.

There is a particularly strong association between alcohol-related problems and the frequency of heavy drinking behaviour (Figure 10 and Table 12). For example, four out of ten Canadians (40%) who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey also reported that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey. By contrast, only 4% of current drinkers who did not consume five or more drinks on a single occasion reported experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey.

It is not at all surprising to find that Canadians who drink heavily are more likely to experience alcohol-related problems. However, what may be surprising is the fact that a considerable percentage of people who report drinking at low and moderate levels also report experiencing alcohol-related problems. Furthermore, many Canadians who have experienced alcohol-related problems in the past continue to drink at above-average levels.

Discussion



The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that health problems are the most common consequence of alcohol use. Indeed, previous research has found that excessive alcohol use is positively associated with a wide variety of physical health problems, including cirrhosis of the liver

(Smart 1988; Lieber 1984), pancreatitis (Fuller 1988), gastrointestinal failure (Di Padova et al. 1987; Kurata and Halle 1984), neurological disorder (Martin et al. 1986), heart disease (Lange and Kinnunen 1987; Moore and Pearson 1986) and various forms of cancer (Driver and Swann 1987; Decker and Goldstein 1982). Alcohol use has also been identified as a major contributor to deaths and physical injuries caused by traffic accidents, falls, fires and drownings (Howland and Hingson 1988; Baker et al. 1984). (For a thorough review of the relationship between alcohol and physical health, see National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 1990.) Recent estimates suggest that approximately 2% of all deaths in Canada and 3% of all deaths in the United States can be attributed to causes linked directly to alcohol use (Van Natta et al. 1984–85; Adrian et al. 1988).

Consistent with the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, previous research has shown that alcohol use is positively associated with various social problems. A number of studies have found that alcohol use can negatively affect people's friendships and social life, marriage and home life, financial position and work and employment opportunities (Cahalan 1988; Auth and Warheit 1982; Clark and Midanik 1982). Alcohol use has also been linked to a number of mental health problems, including depression (Helzer and Przybeck 1988) and antisocial personality disorder (Lewis et al. 1985). This is consistent with the results of the present survey, which suggest that heavy alcohol use often has a negative impact on one's happiness or outlook on life.

Figure 9:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

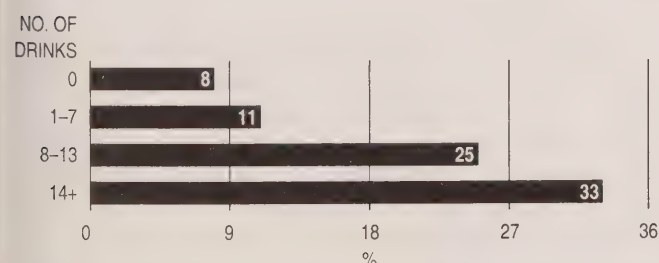
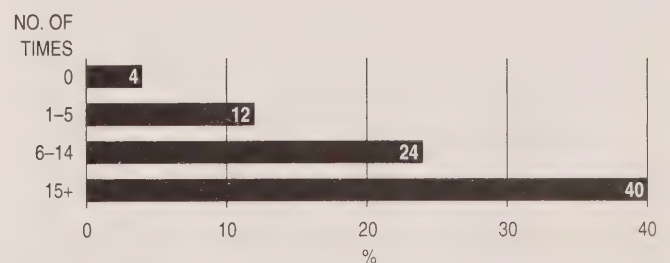


Figure 10:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, by number of times they consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that the demographic distribution of alcohol-related problems is similar to the distribution of alcohol use in general (see Chapter 1). However, an especially strong association exists between alcohol-related problems and the frequency of heavy drinking occasions (i.e., the consumption of five or more drinks on a single occasion). This finding supports Knupfer's (1984, 1987) contention that frequency of intoxication is a more important predictor of alcohol-related problems than is average or total alcohol consumption.

Aging and Alcohol-Related Problems

Consistent with previous research, the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that age is negatively associated with alcohol-related problems. A large number of general population surveys have found that the percentage of people reporting abstinence increases with age and the percentage of people reporting alcohol-related problems decreases with age (Clark and Midanik 1982; Smart and Adlaf 1988). Warheit and Auth (1984) report that only 2% of those over 50 years of age are at high risk of experiencing alcohol-related problems, compared to 6% of those aged 30 to 49 and 10% of those aged 18 to 24. Similarly, Barnes (1982) reviewed a number of U.S. studies and found the rate of problem drinking among those over 60 years of age to be approximately five times lower than that among 18 to 49 year olds. In addition, older persons appear to be at lower risk of experiencing problems in studies using non-clinical samples and psychiatric (DSM-III) definitions of alcohol dependence (Glynn et al. 1984; Williams et al. 1987).

Several theories have attempted to explain why heavy drinking and drinking-related problems appear to be less prevalent among the elderly (Gomberg 1982; see Chapter 1 for a more detailed discussion). Older persons often have smaller incomes and therefore less money to spend on alcohol than other segments of the population. Serious medical problems are also more prevalent among the older population, and this may cause older persons to reduce their level of alcohol consumption. Early mortality among alcohol abusers may also leave a surviving older population that consumes less alcohol and thus experiences fewer alcohol-related problems (Gomberg 1982). Research also suggests that people may become more

conservative in their attitudes and behaviours as they grow older. If true, people should also become more conservative with respect to their drinking habits.

An alternative explanation attributes differences in the drinking practices of age cohorts to a variety of developmental factors associated with the aging process. These include biological and health factors such as lower body mass, decline in body water content, slower metabolic function and higher probability of drug-alcohol interaction. All of these factors would increase the physical effects of alcohol, thus reducing overall consumption (Vogel-Sprott and Barrett 1984; Hartford and Samorajski 1982).

The above explanations are consistent with the idea that there is a general reduction of drinking in later life. However, other scholars suggest that the low rates of alcohol consumption and problem drinking currently observed among the elderly reflect the drinking norms of a particular generation that has now reached old age (i.e., a cohort effect). This contention is bolstered by the results of recent longitudinal studies that suggest that drinking habits remain quite stable over the life course (Reich et al. 1988; Dufour et al. 1988). These researchers suggest that higher rates of alcohol-related problems among the elderly can be expected with the aging of generations that are currently young and hold more liberal views about alcohol consumption (Meyers et al. 1981).

There is increasing evidence to suggest that alcohol consumption does not necessarily decrease with age. In one clinical study, 41% of the people age 65 and older who were in a Mayo Clinic alcoholism treatment program reported symptoms of alcoholism that began after the age of 60 (Hurt et al. 1988). Other studies of late-onset alcoholism suggest that some people may actually increase their alcohol consumption in response to age-related stresses, such as loss of employment or widowhood (Williams 1988; Gomberg 1982).

Although studies of the general population indicate that the elderly experience relatively few alcohol-related problems, some clinical studies paint a different picture. Estimates of the percentage of older persons who are in hospitals and other health care facilities as the result of alcohol abuse range from 7% to 70% (Douglass 1984; Gomberg 1982).

This situation has prompted a number of researchers to describe alcohol abuse among older populations as a “hidden” problem. They contend that surveys and community studies typically underestimate the extent of problem drinking among the elderly. Some analysts suggest that elderly people’s self-reports of alcohol consumption and problems may not be accurate because of increased memory loss among the aged. It is also suggested that the denial of alcohol abuse is much greater among the elderly than among other age groups. Many older persons grew up during Prohibition or the Great Depression when drinking was frowned upon, and they may be reluctant to admit even limited consumption (see review in Graham 1986). Furthermore, many surveys use questions that focus on the prevalence of particular social, legal and job-related problems. Such questions may be inappropriate for older people who are more likely to be socially isolated, no longer driving, retired and hence less vulnerable to various social, legal and job-related consequences of drinking. Finally, symptoms of problem drinking among old people may be misdiagnosed as dementia or other illnesses associated with old age (Bienenfeld 1987; Graham 1986).

In absolute and relative numbers, the size of the elderly population will grow considerably over the next few decades. It is projected that the proportion of the Canadian population older than 65 years will double between 1981 and 2031 (Marshall 1987:8). Even under the conservative assumption that current rates of problem drinking will continue, the sheer number of people maturing into old age means increasing numbers of elderly problem drinkers.

Sex and Alcohol-Related Problems

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also indicate that men are significantly more likely than women to experience various alcohol-related problems. This finding is consistent with the results of previous clinical research and general population surveys (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 1990; Williams et al. 1989; Cahalan 1988; Fillmore 1987; Hilton 1987a; Hilton 1984; Plant et al. 1984; Malin et al. 1982).

Possible explanations for gender differences in drinking behaviour are thoroughly discussed earlier in this report (Chapter 1). To summarize, psychosocial explanations centre around differential social-

ization experiences (Parker et al. 1980). Evidence suggests that women do have different attitudes towards heavy drinking, and that these norms conform to society’s expectations that women drink less. Biological explanations, on the other hand, focus on gender differences in body weight and composition. Women may not have to drink as much as men in order to feel the intoxicating effects of alcohol and experience various alcohol-related problems (Johnson et al. 1977).

The fact that more men than women experience alcohol-related difficulties does not diminish the fact that alcohol abuse among women is a serious issue. Among heavy drinkers, women equal or surpass men with regard to the number of problems that result from their drinking (Wilsnack et al. 1984). The interval between the onset of drinking-related problems and entry into treatment also appears to be shorter for women than for men (Hasin et al. 1988; Piazza et al. 1989). Moreover, studies of female alcoholics in treatment indicate that they often experience greater physiological impairment earlier in their drinking careers, even though they have consumed less alcohol than men (Morgan and Sherlock 1977; Hill 1984). These findings suggest that the development of consequences associated with heavy drinking may be accelerated or “telescoped” in women. In other words, women do not have to drink as much alcohol as men before they experience alcohol-related problems.

Socio-Economic Status and Alcohol-Related Problems

The data also suggest a relationship between socioeconomic status and the experience of alcohol-related problems. Although Canadians with high incomes and high education drink more frequently, persons with low incomes and low education are more likely to experience various alcohol-related problems. Previous research has also found that although frequent drinking is more prevalent among the wealthy and educated, alcohol-related problems are more common among the poor and the undereducated (Hilton 1987b; Stimmel 1984; Trice and Roman 1973; Cahalan and Cisin 1968; Hitz 1973; Cahalan and Room 1972; Schwab et al. 1979).

That persons with low incomes and low levels of educational attainment are more likely to experience

alcohol-related problems is consistent with the fact that although they consume alcohol less frequently, they consume more drinks per drinking occasion and are more likely to engage in heavy drinking activity (i.e., consume five or more drinks on a single occasion). This combination of low socio-economic status and heavy drinking activity supports Knupfer's (1984, 1987) assertion that average or total alcohol intake is of little importance as a predictor of alcohol problems, and that the major predictive factor is the frequency of intoxication. Moreover, a recent study suggests that both frequent heavy drinking and low socio-economic status are important: heavy drinkers with lower incomes and less education are more likely to report alcohol-related consequences than are frequent heavy drinkers at higher income and education levels (Hilton 1987b). Thus, even when controlling for frequency of heavy drinking, people with low socio-economic status may be especially vulnerable to the consequences of alcohol use.

The association of low socio-economic status with alcohol-related problems has led analysts to overlook the affluent (Stimmel 1984). For one thing, affluent people may be less likely to report having drinking problems even when they drink heavily. Furthermore, clinical information generally stems from data collection systems that are in place to record admissions to public alcohol abuse programs. However, the clients attending such programs are generally from middle- or lower-income groups (especially in the United States, where the public hospital system disproportionately serves the poor). High-income people with alcohol dependency problems are more likely to be admitted anonymously to private hospitals and may not come to the notice of researchers.

Part Two: Drinking and Driving

Definitions

Current drinkers were asked how many times, in the 12 months preceding the survey, they had driven a car after having two or more drinks in the previous hour (Q34 in Appendix B). This definition of drinking and driving is consistent with that used in previous Canadian research. The results presented in this section are consistent with the findings of the 1988 National Survey on Drinking and Driving (Health and Welfare Canada 1989). This increases our confidence in the reliability of the data presented here.

General Findings

The findings suggest that, in the year preceding the survey, approximately three million Canadians (19% of current drinkers) operated a motor vehicle at least once after consuming two or more alcoholic beverages during the previous hour (Table 13).

Men (27%) are three times more likely than women (9%) to report drinking and driving. Men also drink and drive much more frequently than women. One out of seven men (15%) reported drinking and driving on three or more occasions in the year pre-

ceding the survey, compared to one out of 33 women (3%) (data not tabulated in report).

Drinking and driving is much more prevalent among younger than older Canadians (Figure 11 and Table 13). For example, 27% of current drinkers between 25 and 34 years of age report driving after consuming two or more drinks during the previous hour, compared to 9% of 55 to 64 year olds and 5% of those 65 years of age and older. The relatively low percentage (12%) of 15 to 19 year olds reporting drinking and driving probably reflects the fact that many do not have a driver's licence or have regular use of an automobile.

Drinking and driving appears to be most prevalent in the Prairie provinces and Quebec (Figure 12 and Table 14). Three out of ten current drinkers from Saskatchewan (29%) reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, followed by Manitoba (23%), Quebec (22%), New Brunswick (21%) and Alberta (20%). The rate of drinking and driving in all other provinces falls below the national rate (19%). The lowest rate is found in Nova Scotia (13%).

Figure 11:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

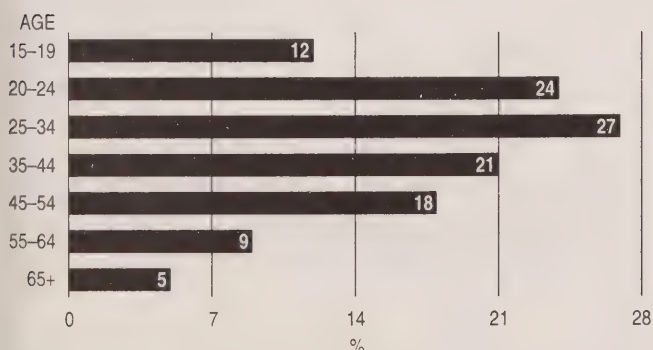
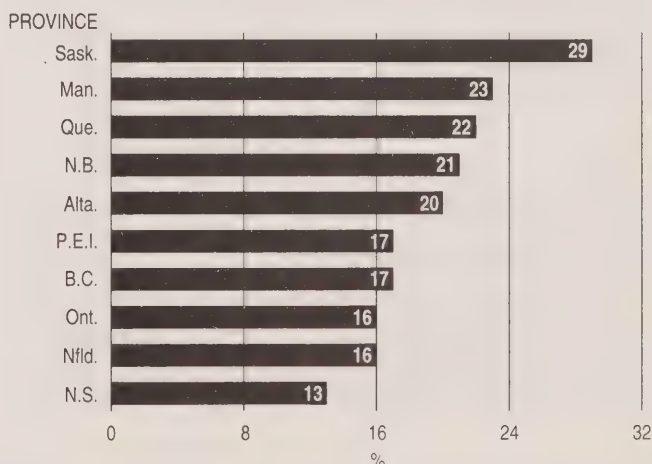


Figure 12:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989



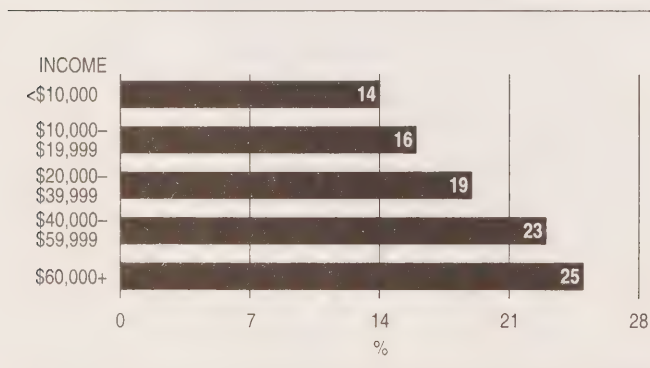
The relationship between education and drinking and driving is unclear (Table 15). Those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree are most likely to report drinking and driving (22%), followed by those who have completed high school (21%), those with a university degree (18%) and those who have not completed high school (15%). Note that current drinkers in the lowest and highest educational categories are least likely to drink and drive.

Unlike education, there is a positive relationship between income and drinking and driving (Figure 13 and Table 16). Those in the highest income category (25%) are most likely to report drinking and driving, whereas those in the lowest income category (14%) are least likely to report this type of behaviour.

Drinking and driving is more prevalent among those who are employed than among students or those who are looking for work (Table 17). Three out of ten blue-collar workers (31%) reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, followed by managers/professionals (23%), other white-collar workers (20%), those looking for work (13%), students (13%), those who are retired (7%) and homemakers (6%).

Drinking and driving is most prevalent among Canadians who are either single (never married) or separated/divorced (Table 18). Twenty-three percent of single drinkers reported that, in the year preceding the survey, they drove a motor vehicle after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, followed by those who are separated/divorced (22%), those who are married (18%) and those who are widowed (4%).

Figure 13:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



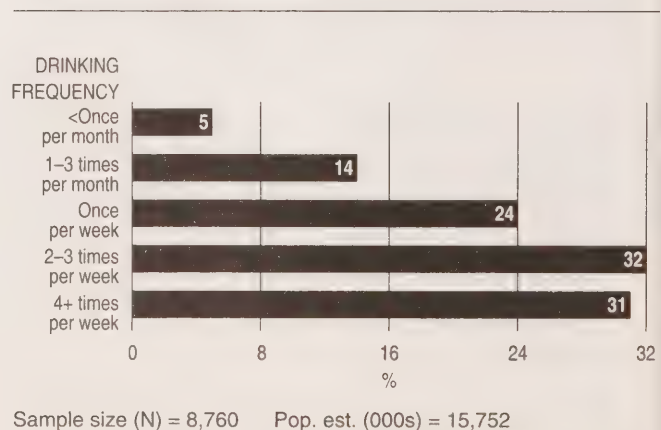
The data suggest that drinking and driving is more common among Francophones than Anglophones (Table 19). For example, 23% of French-speaking drinkers reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, compared to 18% of English-speaking drinkers and 11% of those who speak another language.

The more often people drink, the more likely they are to drink and drive. For example, 31% of Canadians who report consuming alcohol on four or more occasions per week also reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, compared to 14% of those who drink between one and three times per month and only 5% of those who drink less than once per month (Figure 14).

Drinking and driving is also positively associated with estimates of average weekly consumption (Figure 15). For example, almost half (47%) of the current drinkers who consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, compared to 20% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks and only 9% of those who did not have a drink.

Drinking and driving is also positively associated with the frequency of heavy drinking episodes (Figure 16). For example, 44% of Canadians who reported that they consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey also report

Figure 14:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, by drinking frequency, age 15+, Canada, 1989



drinking and driving, compared to 5% of those who never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion.

It is not surprising that driving after drinking is associated with drinking away from home. In particular, the data suggest that there is a strong relationship between going to bars and drinking and driving. For example, four out of ten drinkers (40%) who report that they go to a bar twice a week or more often also claim that they drove after drinking during the year preceding the survey, compared to 38% of those who go to a bar once a week, 29% of those who go a few times a month, 25% who go a few times a year and only 10% of those who never go to a bar or tavern (data not tabulated in report). Although the association between going to bars and drinking and driving is strong and suggestive, note that we have no way of telling precisely (from these data) if drinking and driving commonly takes place when people go to bars.

Discussion

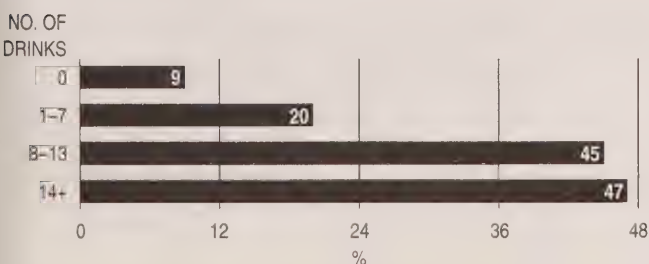


Drinking and driving is a major social problem. It is commonly stated that alcohol consumption is responsible for about half of all the highway deaths that take place in Canada and the United States (Goode 1984:127). Canadian researchers tested the blood alcohol levels of 80% of the 1,483 drivers who died in traffic accidents in 1984. Fifty-five percent of the fatally injured drivers indicated the presence of

alcohol, 31.5% having more than twice the legal limit. In Ontario, 54% of fatally injured drivers showed the presence of alcohol, 30% having more than twice the legal limit. Moreover, these figures are probably conservative, as individuals can metabolize all alcohol in their system before dying and undergoing an autopsy. On the other hand, alcohol is probably less involved in fatalities where blood alcohol levels are not tested. The number of alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents in Ontario reached a total of 17,590 in 1986. Two percent of these alcohol-related accidents involved loss of life, 52% involved personal injury and 46% involved property damage only, according to Adrian et al. (1988).

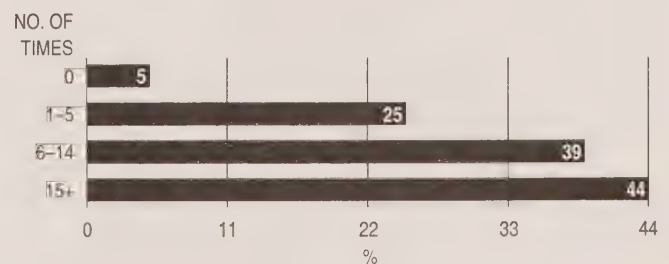
Despite the risks associated with drinking and driving, the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that one out of five current drinkers (19%) engaged in this behaviour during the 12 months preceding the survey. Consistent with the results of previous research, the data indicate that drinking and driving is most prevalent among young males (Health and Welfare Canada 1989; Donovan and Jessor 1978; Hingson and Howland 1987; Jessor 1987). Indeed, over 70% of Canadians involved in alcohol-related accidents in 1986 were between 16 and 34 years of age (Adrian et al. 1988). A number of studies have observed that men who drink and drive can be distinguished from those who do not by their frequent heavy drinking and general tendency towards risk-taking behaviour (Jonah and Dawson 1987; Wilson and Jonah 1985).

Figure 15:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Figure 16:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey, by number of times they consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

Although men are more likely than women to drink and drive, recent analysis suggests that drinking and driving may be increasing among women (Shore et al. 1988). Changes in attitudes towards women's drinking, notably increased acceptance of public drinking, may help to explain this trend. Increased driving among women may also be involved (Aitken and Zobeck 1985).

Despite warnings by government and public affairs groups, Canadians continue to drink and drive. The situation is no doubt exacerbated by the fact that arrests for drunk driving remain infrequent in comparison to the amount of drunk driving that takes place. According to Moore and Gerstein (1981), the probability of being arrested for drunk driving during any particular drinking and driving occurrence was estimated at one in 2,000.

Part Three:

Contact with Police Because of Alcohol Use

Definitions



All current drinkers were asked whether or not they had ever had any contact with police as a result of their drinking (Q35 in Appendix B). This question asked respondents only about their "contact" with police; it does not necessarily mean that they were arrested or charged with an alcohol-related offence. Moreover, the survey did not obtain detailed information about the type of alcohol-related behaviour that elicited police contact. Such behaviour often involves public drunkenness, disturbing the peace and driving while intoxicated. Other, non-alcohol-specific contact, such as assaults, burglary or vandalism, may also entail alcohol involvement.

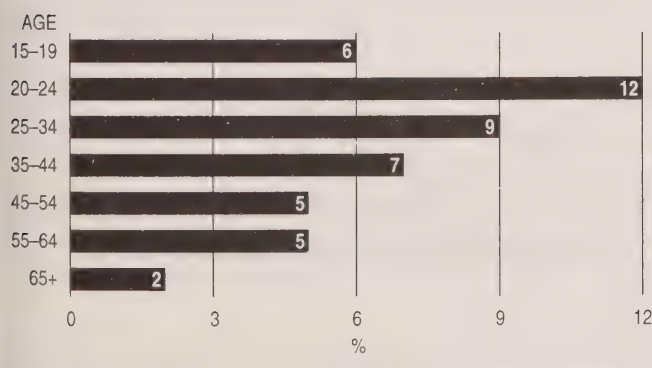
General Findings



The results suggest that over one million Canadians (7% of current drinkers) have been in contact with the police because of their alcohol use. Men (12%) are six times more likely than women (2%) to report such an experience (Table 20).

Contact with police because of drinking is much more common among younger than older Canadians (Figure 17 and Table 20). For example, 12% of 20 to

Figure 17:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with police because of their drinking, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



24 year olds and 9% of 25 to 34 year olds report ever having contact with the police, compared to 5% of 55 to 64 year olds. Only 2% of those 65 years of age and older reported police contact because of drinking.

Police contact is less prevalent in Quebec and Ontario than in other areas of Canada (Table 21). Current drinkers from New Brunswick (11%) are most likely to report that they have had contact with police because of their drinking, followed by the residents of Prince Edward Island (10%), British Columbia (10%), Alberta (9%), Newfoundland (9%), Manitoba (9%), Saskatchewan (8%), Nova Scotia (8%), Ontario (6%) and Quebec (4%).

The data suggest that there is a negative relationship between contact with police and both education (Table 22) and household income (Table 23). For example, 9% of current drinkers with less than a high-school education report that they have had contact with the police as a result of their drinking, compared to 4% of those with a university degree. Similarly, 11% of current drinkers with an annual household income of less than \$10,000 report that they had contact with the police because of their drinking, compared to 7% of those in households making \$60,000 or more.

According to occupational categories (Table 24), 14% of blue-collar workers and 12% of those who are looking for work report having had contact with police because of their drinking, followed by students (8%), managers/professionals (5%), other white-collar workers (5%) and those who are retired (3%).

Police contact is most prevalent among single (never married) Canadians and those who are either separated or divorced (Table 25). Approximately 12% of current drinkers who are separated/divorced and 11% of those who are single report that they have had contact with police. These represent over twice the proportion of married and widowed people reporting police contact.

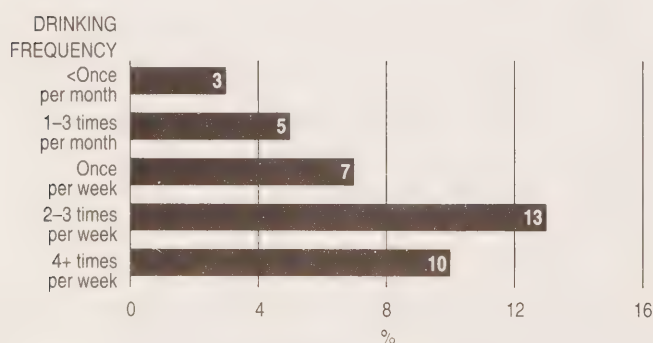
English-speaking drinkers (8%) are twice as likely as French-speaking drinkers (4%) to report that they have had contact with police because of their alcohol

consumption (Table 26). This finding is consistent with provincial data that show that Quebec has the lowest rate of police contact because of alcohol use (see Table 21).

Police contact is clearly related to various measures of alcohol consumption. Heavy drinkers are more likely to have contact with police than low to moderate drinkers. For example, 13% of those who consume alcohol two or three times per week report that they have had contact with police because of their drinking, compared to 3% of those who drink less than once per month (Figure 18). Similarly, 19% of those who consumed 14 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report police contact, compared to 6% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks and 4% of those who did not have a drink (Figure 19).

An especially strong association exists between police contact and episodes of heavy drinking behaviour (Figure 20). For example, one out of four drinkers (25%) who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the year preceding the survey report that they had contact with the police, compared to only one out of 50 current drinkers (2%) who did not drink at this level.

Figure 18:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with police because of their drinking, by drinking frequency, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

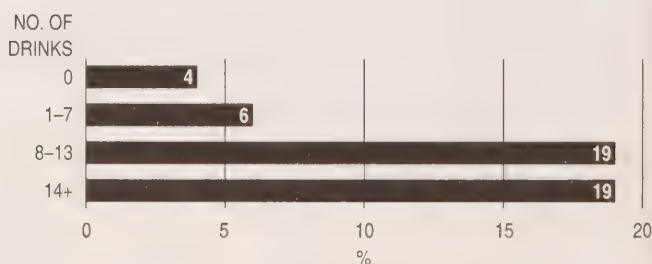
Discussion



The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that approximately one million adult Canadians have, at some time in their lives, come into contact with police as a result of their own alcohol consumption. By contrast, approximately three million Canadians reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey. Thus, three times as many Canadians reported drinking and driving in the year preceding the survey as report police contact in their lifetimes (and we are not even sure if this police contact was the result of drinking and driving and not some other alcohol-related offence). This finding provides further support for Moore's and Gerstein's (1981) contention that there is little likelihood of being arrested for any particular episode of drinking and driving.

Statistics reveal that the Canadian justice system deals with a large number of alcohol-related offences. In 1986, 128,797 people were charged with alcohol-related traffic offences, including impaired operation of a motor vehicle (93%) and refusal to provide a breath or blood sample (7%). In 1985-1986, there were 22,938 sentenced admissions to provincial adult correctional institutions for drinking/driving offences — 17% of all admissions. Furthermore, the number of criminal offences under the Liquor Control Act reached 259,238 in 1986 — a rate of 1,013 per 100,000 population. In 1985-1986, there were an additional 8,777 sentenced admissions to provincial

Figure 19:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with police because of their drinking, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

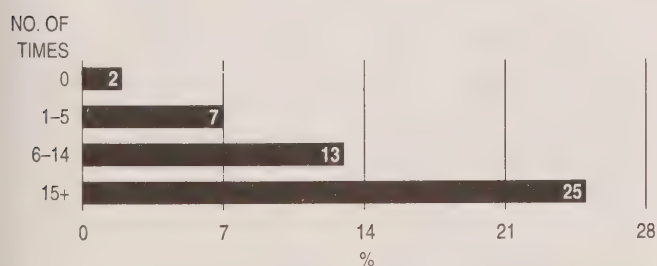


Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

adult correctional facilities for Liquor Control Act offences, accounting for an additional 7% of all sentenced admissions (Adrian et al. 1988).

The results of the present survey suggest that people who come into contact with police as a result of their alcohol use share the same characteristics as problem drinkers in general: they tend to be young, male and from low socio-economic backgrounds. The fact that men are more likely than women to come into contact with police because of their drinking is also consistent with the fact that over 90% of the Canadians charged with various alcohol-related offences in 1986 were men (Adrian et al. 1988). The especially strong correlation between police contact and frequent heavy drinking (i.e., the consumption of five or more drinks on a single occasion) provides further support for Knupfer's (1984, 1987) contention that frequency of intoxication is the best predictor of alcohol-related problems.

Figure 20:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with police because of their drinking, by number of times they consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 8,760 Pop. est. (000s) = 15,752

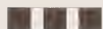
Part Four: Problems Caused by Other People's Alcohol

Definitions



In addition to discussing problems that resulted from their own use of alcohol, all respondents (including those who do not drink) were asked to report on the problems that they had experienced as a result of other people's drinking behaviour (Q53 in Appendix B).

General Findings



The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that four out of five Canadians (78%) have, at some point in their lives, experienced a problem as a result of someone else's drinking. Almost half the population (45%) experienced a problem as a result of someone else's drinking in the year preceding the survey (data not tabulated in report).

Fifty-two percent of all Canadians (approximately 10.5 million people) report that they have been insulted at some time in their lives by someone who has been drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Twenty-one percent of the population (approximately 4.3 million people) reported that they had been insulted by someone who had been drinking in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

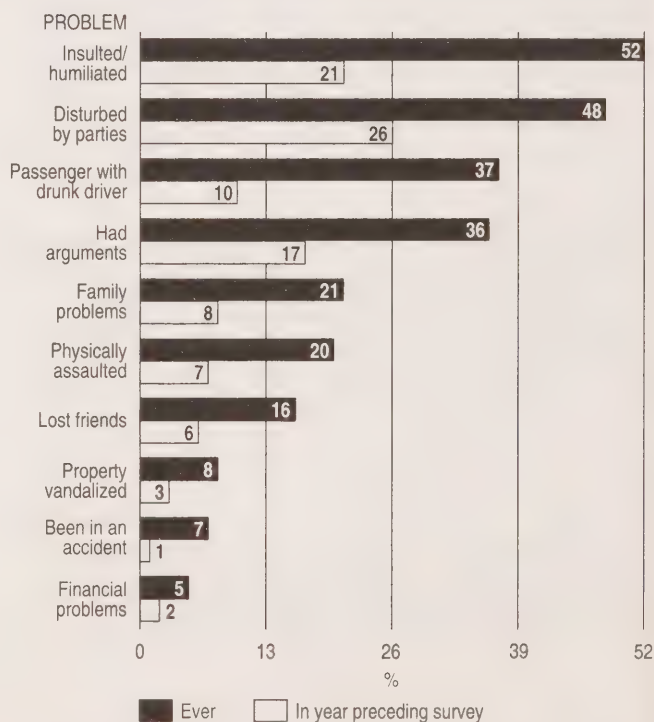
Forty-eight percent of Canadians (approximately 9.7 million people) report that they have been disturbed by loud parties or the behaviour of people drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Twenty-six percent of the population (approximately 5.3 million people) reported that they had been disturbed by others' drinking in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

One out of three Canadians (36% of the adult population, or approximately 7.3 million people) report having been in serious arguments or quarrels as a result of someone else's drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Seventeen percent (approximately 3.5 million people) reported having had such arguments or quarrels in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Thirty-seven percent of Canadians (approximately 7.5 million people) report that they have been a passenger in a motor vehicle with a drunk driver (Figure 21 and Table 27). One out of ten Canadians (10% of the adult population, or approximately two million people) reported being a passenger in a car with a drunk driver in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

One out of five Canadians (21% of the adult population, or approximately 4.3 million people) have experienced family or marital problems because of someone else's drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Eight percent of the population (approximately 1.6 million people) experienced family or marital problems in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Figure 21:
Percentage of Canadians who have experienced problems as a result of other people's drinking, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Twenty percent of Canadians (approximately 4.1 million people) report that they have been physically assaulted at some time in their lives by someone who had been drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Seven percent of the adult population (approximately 1.4 million people) reported that they had been physically assaulted in the 12 months prior to the survey by someone who had been drinking (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Sixteen percent of Canadians (approximately 3.2 million people) have lost a friend because of the friend's drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Six percent of the population (1.2 million people) reported that they had lost a friend for this reason in the year prior to the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Eight percent of Canadians (1.6 million people) report that they have had their property vandalized by someone who had been drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Three percent of the population (approximately 610,000 people) reported experiencing this type of problem in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Five percent of Canadians (approximately one million people) report that they have experienced financial difficulties as a result of someone else's drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). Two percent (approximately 400,000 people) reported experiencing such financial difficulties in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Finally, 7% of Canadians (approximately 1.4 million people) report that they have been in a traffic accident as a result of someone else's drinking (Figure 21 and Table 27). One percent (approximately 200,000 people) reported that they had been involved in a traffic accident because of someone else's drinking in the year preceding the survey (Figure 21 and Table 28).

Sex

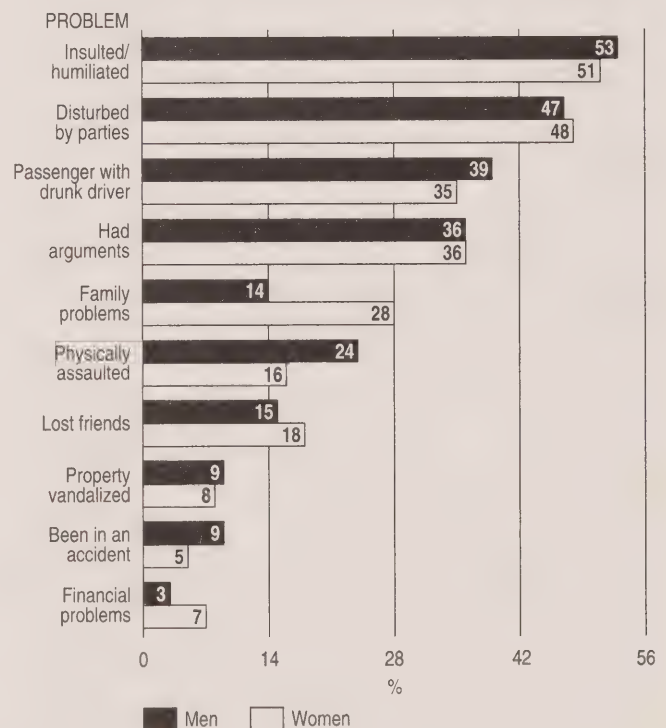


Men (80%) are only slightly more likely than women (76%) to report that they have experienced a problem as a result of someone else's drinking. Forty-seven percent of men and 43% of women reported experiencing such problems in the year preceding the survey (data not tabulated in report).

A similar proportion of men and women report that they have been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking, have had serious arguments as a result of someone else's drinking, have had their property vandalized by someone who had been drinking and have been disturbed by loud parties (Figure 22 and Tables 27 and 28).

However, women (28%) are more likely than men (14%) to report that they have experienced marital or family problems as a result of someone else's drinking (Table 27). In fact, one out of ten women (11%) reported experiencing such a problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to one out of 20 men (5%) (Table 28). This finding is consistent with the fact that men are more likely than women to report that their own drinking has caused family problems (see Part One above) and the fact that women are more likely than men to report that their spouse has a drinking problem (see Part Five below).

Figure 22:
Percentage of Canadians who have experienced problems as a result of other people's drinking, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Women (7%) are also twice as likely as men (3%) to report that they have experienced financial difficulties as a result of someone else's drinking. Furthermore, women (18%) are slightly more likely than men (15%) to report that they have lost a friend as a result of the other person's drinking (Figure 22 and Tables 27 and 28).

On the other hand, men (24%) are somewhat more likely than women (16%) to report that they have been physically assaulted by someone who had been drinking (Figure 22 and Table 27). Almost one in ten men (9%) reported being physically assaulted in the year preceding the survey, compared to one out of 20 women (5%) (Table 28). Previous research (Fillmore 1985) indicates that whereas men are more likely to be physically assaulted by strangers or acquaintances in public places, women are more likely to be assaulted by their spouse, partner or other male relative in private settings.

The data also indicate that a slightly higher percentage of men (39%) than women (35%) have been a passenger in a car with a drunk driver. Thirteen percent of men reported being in such a situation in the year preceding the survey, compared to 8% of women. Finally, men (9%) are twice as likely as women (5%) to report that they have been involved in an automobile accident because of someone else's drinking (Figure 22 and Tables 27 and 28).

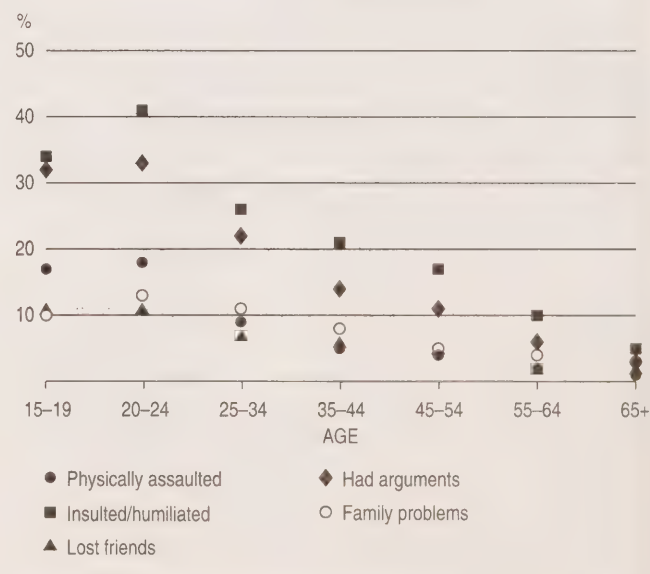
Age



The likelihood of having experienced a problem in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking decreases with age (Figure 23 and Table 28). For example, 41% of 20 to 24 year olds reported that, in the year preceding the survey, they had been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking, compared to 21% of 35 to 44 year olds and 5% of those who are 65 years of age and older. Similarly, 33% of 20 to 24 year olds reported that, within the year preceding the survey, they had been involved in a serious argument as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 14% of 35 to 44 year olds and only 3% of those 65 years of age and older. Furthermore, 18% of 20 to 24 year olds reported that, within the year preceding the survey, they had been assaulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to 5% of 35 to 44 year olds and 2% of 55 to 64 year olds.

Not only are young Canadians more likely to report recent problems caused by other people's drinking, they are also more likely to report "ever" experiencing such problems (Table 27). For example, 28% of 20 to 24 year olds report that, at some time in their lives, they have been physically assaulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to 13% of 55 to 64 year olds and 8% of those 65 years of age and older. Similarly, 59% of 20 to 24 year olds report that they have been insulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to 43% of 55 to 64 year olds and 34% of those 65 years of age and older. This finding is consistent with the fact that younger Canadians are also more likely to report "ever" experiencing problems as a result of their own alcohol use (see Part One above). It is possible that older Canadians either have forgotten about the problems they experienced in the past or simply do not want to report them. On the other hand, it is also possible that the current generation of young people has more exposure to situations where heavy drinking takes place (i.e., parties, bars or taverns) and are thus more vulnerable to experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking.

Figure 23:
Percentage of Canadians who experienced problems as a result of other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Region



In general, the likelihood of experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking is highest in the western provinces and lowest in Quebec (Table 29). For example, over 62% of the residents of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan report that, at some time in their lives, they have been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking, compared to only 33% of the residents of Quebec. Similarly, over 25% of the residents of British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba report that they have been physically assaulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to only 10% of the residents of Quebec. It should be noted, however, that little regional variation exists with respect to the proportion of Canadians who have lost friends, experienced family or financial problems or been in an automobile accident as a result of others' drinking.

Education



It is difficult to establish a clear relationship between education and the likelihood of experiencing a problem caused by someone else's drinking. In general, Canadians with a university degree are the least likely to report experiencing such difficulties, whereas those in the second highest educational category are the most likely to do so (Table 30). For example, 26% of Canadians with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree reported that they had been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking in the year preceding the survey, compared to 23% of those who have completed high school, 20% of those with less than a high-school education and 17% of those with a university degree. Similarly, 20% of those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree reported that they had a serious argument in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 18% of those with a high-school diploma, 16% of those with less than high school and 11% of those with a university degree.

Income



In most cases, income is not significantly related to the likelihood of experiencing problems with other people's drinking. However, Canadians with low

incomes are more likely than those with high incomes to experience family problems, friendship breakup and financial difficulties (Table 31). For example, 11% of Canadians with a household income of less than \$10,000 a year reported that they had family problems in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 6% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more. Similarly, 9% of those in households earning less than \$10,000 a year reported that they had broken off with a friend in the year preceding the survey because of the other person's drinking, compared to 5% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more. Finally, 4% of those earning less than \$10,000 a year reported experiencing financial difficulties in the year preceding the survey because of someone else's drinking, compared to only 1% of those in households earning \$60,000 or more.

Employment Status



In general, students and those looking for work are the most likely to experience problems caused by other people's drinking (Table 32). For example, 32% of both students and those looking for work reported that they had been insulted by someone who had been drinking in the year preceding the survey, followed by white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (26%), blue-collar workers (25%), managers/professionals (21%), homemakers (14%) and those who are retired (7%). Similarly, 15% of students and 14% of those who are looking for work reported being physically assaulted in the year preceding the survey by someone who had been drinking, compared to 9% of white-collar workers other than managers/professionals, 9% of blue-collar workers, 6% of managers/professionals, 3% of homemakers and 2% of those who are retired.

Marital Status



The data indicate that Canadians who are single (never married), separated or divorced are more likely to experience problems with other people's drinking than those who are married or widowed (Table 33). For example, 33% of single Canadians reported that they had been insulted in the year preceding the survey by someone who had been drinking, followed by those who are divorced (28%), separated (26%),

married (16%) and widowed (6%). Similarly, 29% of single Canadians reported that they had a serious argument in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking, followed by those who are separated (20%), divorced (18%), married (12%) and widowed (3%).

Language



In general, English-speaking Canadians are more likely to experience problems with other people's drinking than those who speak French or some other language (Table 34). For example, in the year preceding the survey, 25% of Anglophones reported being insulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to 12% of Francophones and 13% of those who speak another language. Similarly, 9% of Anglophones reported that they had family problems in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 6% of Francophones and 4% of those who speak another language. However, little difference exists between language groups in terms of the proportion reporting financial problems, being a passenger in a car with a drunk driver and being in an accident as a result of someone else's drinking.

Drinking Status



Current drinkers are more likely to experience problems caused by other people's drinking than both former drinkers and lifetime abstainers (Figure 24 and Table 35). For example, 24% of current drinkers reported that they had been insulted in the year preceding the survey by someone who had been drinking, compared to 14% of former drinkers and 10% of lifetime abstainers. Similarly, 19% of current drinkers reported that they had been in serious arguments in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 10% of former drinkers and 8% of lifetime abstainers.

Level of Consumption

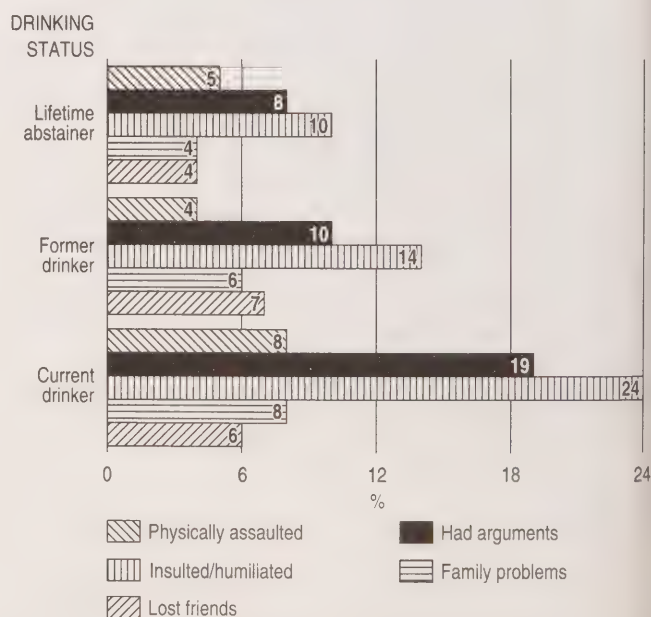


A person's own level of alcohol consumption is also positively associated with the experience of problems caused by other people's drinking. For example, 33% of those who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week

preceding the survey reported that they had a serious argument in the year preceding the survey as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to 23% of those who consumed between eight and 14 drinks, 18% who consumed between one and seven drinks and 17% who did not drink at all. Similarly, 15% of those who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey reported that they had been physically assaulted in the year preceding the survey by someone who had been drinking, compared to 13% of those who consumed between eight and 14 drinks, 7% who consumed between one and seven drinks and 7% who did not drink at all (Figure 25 and Table 35).

The frequency of heavy drinking episodes is also positively related to the likelihood of experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking behaviour (Figure 26 and Table 36). For example, 39% of those who consumed five or more drinks on seven or more occasions in the year preceding the survey reported that they had been insulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to only 18% of those who never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion.

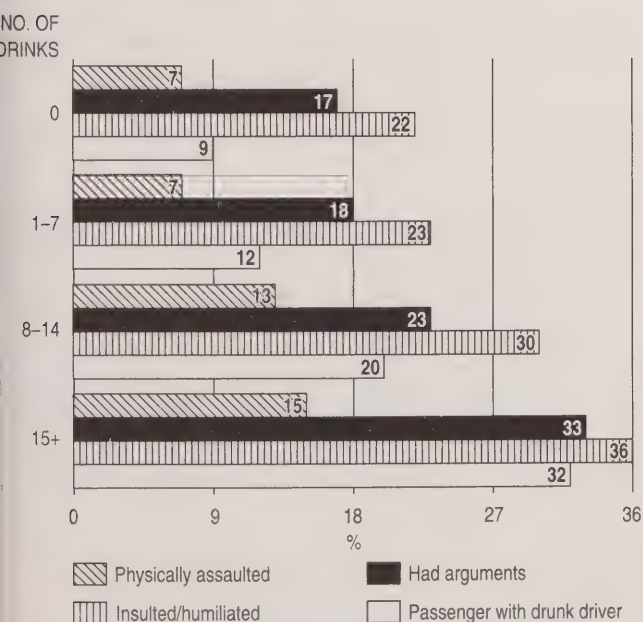
Figure 24:
Percentage of Canadians who experienced problems as a result of other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by drinking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Similarly, 33% of those who consumed five or more drinks on seven or more occasions in the year preceding the survey reported that they had been a passenger in a car with a drunk driver, compared to only 8% of those who never consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion.

Finally, the data indicate that people who have experienced problems as a result of their own alcohol use are at particularly high risk of experiencing problems with other people's use as well. Three out of four current drinkers (73%) who experienced a problem with their own alcohol use in the year preceding the survey also report experiencing a problem as a result of someone else's drinking, compared to only 45% of those who did not experience a problem with their own alcohol consumption (data not tabulated in report).

Figure 25:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced problems as a result of other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

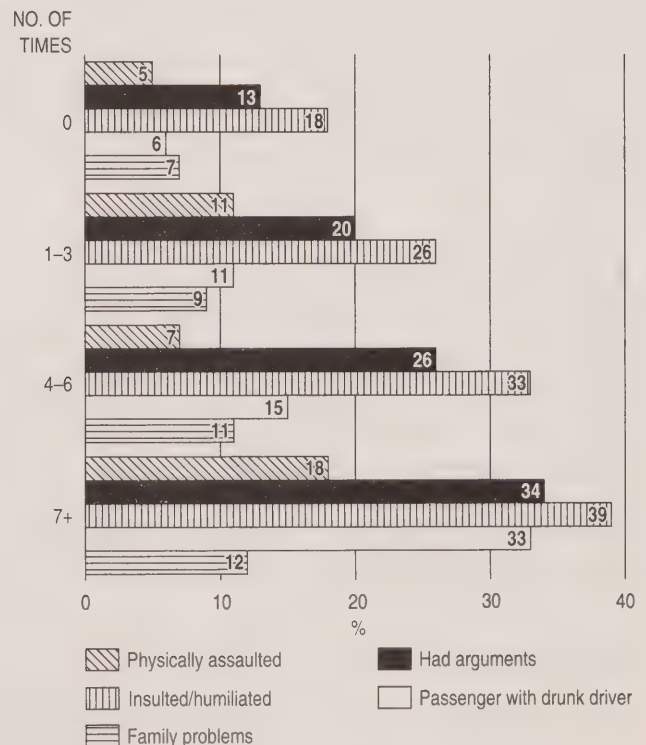


Discussion



Although heavy drinking is often said to have a negative impact on society at large, the consequences of drinking are mostly reported from the perspective of the drinker (see Part One) and are rarely reported in terms of how they affect others. However, the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that the vast majority of Canadians (78%) have experienced a problem as a result of someone else's alcohol use. This high percentage suggests that the negative consequences of alcohol use are widespread and not just limited to heavy drinkers. These consequences extend outward from heavy drinkers to their spouses, children, friends and employers, as well as the strangers with whom they may come into contact.

Figure 26:
Percentage of current drinkers who experienced problems as a result of other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by number of times they consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion, age 15+, Canada, 1989



A 1981 general population survey of Berkeley, California (N=1,022), directly examined the social consequences of drinking from the perspective of the drinker's victims (Fillmore 1985). This investigation found that the social victims of other people's drinking tend to resemble problem drinkers found in general population surveys — particularly in terms of their own drinking and drinking-related problems. Victims tend to be young, never married and from lower socio-economic strata. They also tend to be frequent and/or heavy drinkers and to have often experienced problems as a result of their own use of alcohol (Fillmore 1985:312). These findings are obviously consistent with the results of the present survey.

Both the demographic and the drinking findings suggest an association between victimization and/or the behaviour of those victimized (Fillmore 1985). It is possible that heavy drinkers socialize or live with other heavy drinkers. Hence, they are more likely than others to be in the places where the social consequences of alcohol use are most likely to occur. Previous sections of this report have indeed revealed that heavy drinkers commonly associate with other heavy drinkers (see Chapter 3) and frequently seek out social settings (e.g., bars or taverns) where heavy drinking takes place (see Chapter 4). Thus, heavy drinkers are more likely to be exposed to people who drink heavily than are either light drinkers or abstainers. This situation most likely explains the fact that heavy drinkers are more likely to experience not only problems caused by their own alcohol use, but problems caused by other people's alcohol use as well.

It may also be possible that the behaviour of heavy drinkers makes them more vulnerable to victimization by other drinkers. Although this hypothesis cannot be tested with data from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, previous research indicates that most alcohol-related crimes involve both a drinking victim and a drinking offender (Roizen and Schneberg 1977). As Fillmore notes: "the distinct possibility exists that the 'victim' of other drinkers' misbehaviour plays a drinking role in the event or condition labelled problematic" (Fillmore 1985:313).

Spousal Abuse

The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that women are much more likely

than men to report family problems resulting from other people's alcohol use. This is consistent with the results of other surveys that suggest that men receive more spouse or relative complaints regarding their own drinking than do women (Clark and Midanik 1982).

Previous research (Fillmore 1985) also indicates that whereas men are more likely to be physically assaulted by strangers or acquaintances, women are more likely to be assaulted by their spouse or partner. Indeed, a recent review of studies using many methods and examining diverse samples supports clinical findings that many abused wives consider their husbands to be alcohol dependent or to have other alcohol-related disabilities (Leonard and Jacob 1988). Findings based on the responses of husbands also indicate a relationship between alcohol use and spousal abuse, even when marital satisfaction, hostility and demographic factors are controlled for (Leonard et al. 1985).

Another study compared alcohol use in couples characterized by physical abuse with alcohol use in couples who were maritally discordant but non-violent and in couples who were satisfactorily married (Van Hasselt et al. 1985). Based on their self-reports and their wives' observations, physically abusive males were found to have higher rates of alcohol dependence than males in the two comparison groups. Such findings lend support to Room's (1980) contention that the drinking problems of many women are often those of their male partners.

Alcohol and Crime

The relationship between alcohol and crime is one of the few areas of alcohol victimization that has a sizeable body of research. A number of studies have indicated that alcohol might be a facilitator of criminal acts, particularly crimes against the person (Room 1983). Welte and Miller (1987) compared self-reported drug and alcohol use among subjects incarcerated for violent and property offences. Although those committing violent crimes were more likely than property offenders to have been drinking, a majority of both had been drinking just prior to the crime. Other research estimates that almost half of the convicted offenders incarcerated for violent crimes in the United States (particularly assaults) used alcohol immediately before they committed their crimes

(United States Department of Justice 1988:50–52). Lenke (1982) analysed ecological data from several Scandinavian countries over long periods of time and found a positive correlation between alcohol consumption and rates of violent crime. However, ecological data do not indicate whether the same persons who consumed large amounts of alcohol also committed violent crimes.

A number of factors may inflate the apparent relationship between alcohol and crime. Many investigations of this relationship have methodological limitations. First of all, intoxicated criminals may be more likely to get caught and convicted (Roizen and Schneberk 1977) and thus are more likely to be represented in prison populations. Furthermore, clinical studies and surveys of alcoholics often include criminal events or social misbehaviour in the very definition of “alcoholic” and then use circular reasoning to link alcoholics to crimes and social misbehaviour (Room 1983). Moreover, of the 35 studies reviewed by Greenberg (1981), only five were designed to control for the effects of age and sex — factors related both to the incidence of crime and to drinking. A recent longitudinal study (Temple and Ladouceur 1986) found that although crime and alcohol use appear to be related among adolescents, this relationship diminishes with time and cannot be found after age 31. The authors suggest that, at most, any causal relationship between alcohol and crime is age specific.

Many theories have been offered to explain the apparent relationship between alcohol and violence. Laboratory research has produced some evidence of links between the pharmacological effects of alcohol and aggressive behaviour (Brian 1986). However, other research indicates that the relationship between alcohol and violence is much more complicated. Recent findings strongly suggest that expectancies about the effects of alcohol may influence aggressive behaviour, and that cultural, environmental and individual factors can influence the effects of drinking on aggression (Brian 1986; National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 1990; Collins 1981).

Part Five: Network Members' Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Network Members' Problems with Alcohol Use



Definitions

All respondents, including non-drinkers, were asked to indicate whether or not various members of their social network had ever had a drinking problem (Q54 in Appendix B). As discussed in Chapter 4, the term "social network" is used to describe the various people (friends, relatives, co-workers, etc.) with whom individuals come into contact on a regular basis.

General Findings

The data suggest that seven out of ten Canadians (69%, or approximately 14 million people) know someone who has had a drinking problem. Canadians are most likely to report alcohol-related problems among their relatives (45%), followed by their friends

(41%) and co-workers (31%). Only 4% of Canadians report that their spouse or partner has had a drinking problem (Figure 27 and Table 37).

A slightly higher percentage of men (71%) than women (67%) report knowing someone with a drinking problem (Figure 27 and Table 37). Men (42%) are twice as likely as women (21%) to report that they know a co-worker who has had a drinking problem. Men (46%) are also more likely than women (35%) to report that they have friends with a drinking problem. On the other hand, women (7%) are much more likely than men (1%) to report that their spouse or partner has a drinking problem. Traditionally the "kin-keepers" in households (Wellman 1990), women (49%) are also more likely than men (41%) to report alcohol-related problems among their relatives.

Overall, Canadians in the middle age categories are more likely to report alcohol-related problems among their network members than those in either the youngest or oldest categories (Figure 28 and Table 37). For example, 75% of 35 to 44 year olds report that they know someone with a drinking problem, followed by 25 to 34 year olds (74%), 45 to 54 year olds (73%), 20 to 24 year olds (73%), 55 to 64 year olds (63%), 15 to 19 year olds (60%) and those who are 65 years of age and older (54%).

Figure 27:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drinking problem, by network member type and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

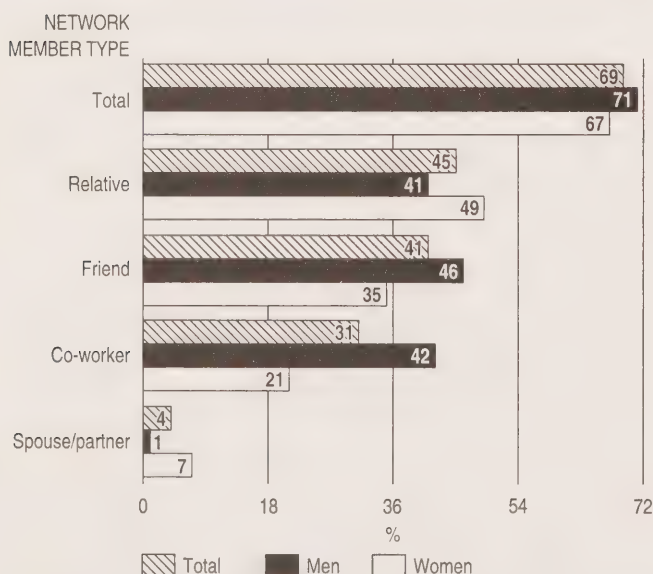


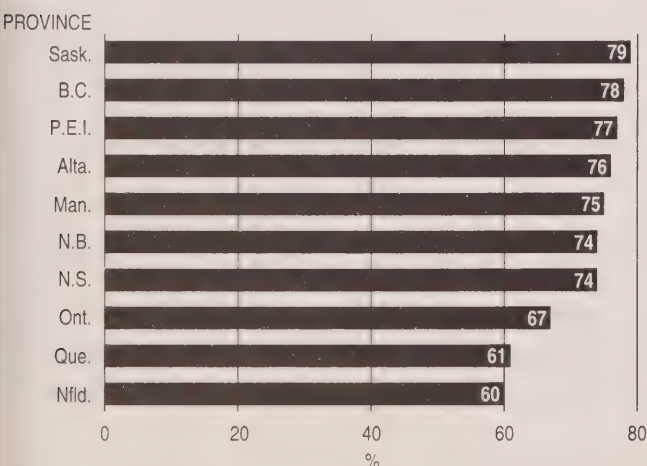
Figure 28:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drinking problem, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The percentage of Canadians who report network members with alcohol-related problems varies by province (Figure 29 and Table 38). Eight out of ten residents of Saskatchewan (79%) report that they know someone with a drinking problem, followed by the residents of British Columbia (78%), Prince Edward Island (77%), Alberta (76%), Manitoba (75%), Nova Scotia (74%) and New Brunswick (74%). Only three provinces — Newfoundland (60%), Quebec (61%) and Ontario (67%) — fall below the national rate (69%).

The data suggest that there is a slight positive association between education and knowing someone with a drinking problem (Figure 30 and Table 39). Overall, 75% of Canadians with a university degree and 76% of Canadians with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree report that they know someone with a drinking problem, compared to 70% of those with a high-school diploma and 62% of those with less than a high-school education. Compared to those with less than a high-school education, Canadians with a university degree are particularly likely to report alcohol-related problems among their co-workers (40% vs. 23%) and friends (47% vs. 36%). However, Canadians with a university degree are the least likely to report that their spouse or partner has a drinking problem.

Figure 29:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drinking problem, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The data also indicate that the likelihood of knowing someone with a drinking problem increases with income (Figure 31 and Table 40). For example, 76% of Canadians with an annual household income of \$60,000 or more report that they have a network member with a drinking problem, compared to 66% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 65% of those in households earning less than \$10,000 per year.

In terms of occupation, managers/professionals (80%) are most likely to report that they know someone with a drinking problem, followed by both other white-collar and blue-collar workers (71% each), people looking for work (70%), homemakers (64%), students (62%) and those who have retired (60%) (Table 41).

Figure 30:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drinking problem, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

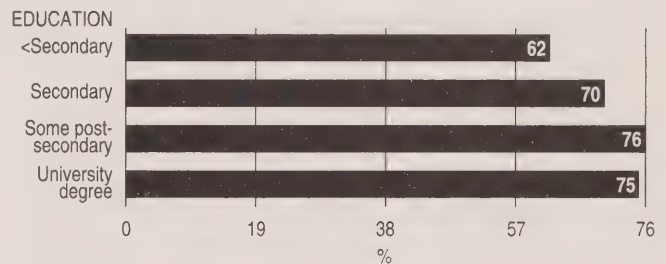
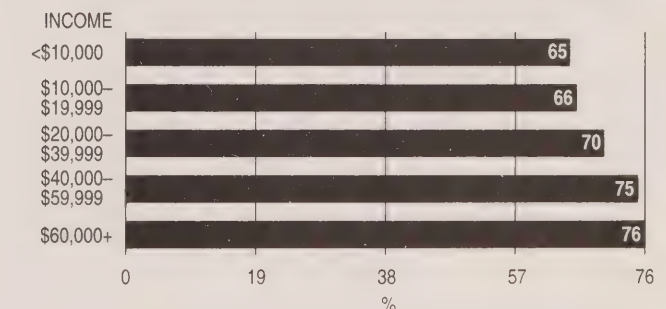


Figure 31:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drinking problem, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Canadians who are either divorced (80%) or separated (79%) are most likely to report that they know someone with an alcohol-related problem, followed by those who are married (69%), single (never married) (68%) and widowed (51%) (Table 42).

In general, Anglophones (74%) are more likely to know someone with an alcohol-related problem than either Francophones (62%) or those who speak another language at home (38%) (Table 43). Interestingly, similar percentages (4%) of French- and English-speaking Canadians report that either their spouse or other family members have a drinking problem. However, Anglophones are much more likely than Francophones to report problems among their friends (46% vs. 30%) and co-workers (36% vs. 21%).

Current drinkers (72%) are more likely to know someone with a drinking problem than both former drinkers (61%) and lifetime abstainers (51%) (Figure 32 and Table 44). The only apparent exception to this general pattern is the fact that a slightly higher percentage of former drinkers (5%) than lifetime abstainers (4%) and current drinkers (4%) report that their spouse/partner has a drinking problem.

The data also suggest that the likelihood of knowing someone with a drinking problem is positively associated with one's own level of alcohol consumption (Figure 33 and Table 44). For example, 79% of the current drinkers who consumed 15 or more drinks in the week preceding the survey report that they know someone with a drinking problem, compared to 77% of those who consumed between eight

and 14 drinks, 74% of those who consumed between one and seven drinks and 68% of those who did not have a drink in the week preceding the survey.

Finally, Canadians who have experienced problems with their own alcohol use are more likely to know someone else with a drinking problem than those who have not experienced such difficulties. For example, 84% of those who had a problem with their own use in the year preceding the survey report knowing someone with an alcohol-related problem, compared to 69% of those who did not have a problem (data not tabulated in report). This finding is consistent with other results (see Chapter 4) that suggest that heavy drinkers commonly have friends and relatives with similar drinking habits.

Network Members' Problems with Drug Use



Definitions

The small size of the population reporting use of both licit and illicit substances precluded detailed questioning of respondents about the problems they might have experienced as a result of their own drug taking. Nevertheless, the survey did ask respondents (including those who do not use drugs themselves) whether or not they had a friend, relative, spouse or co-worker with a drug problem (Q68 in Appendix B).

Figure 32:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drinking problem, by drinking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

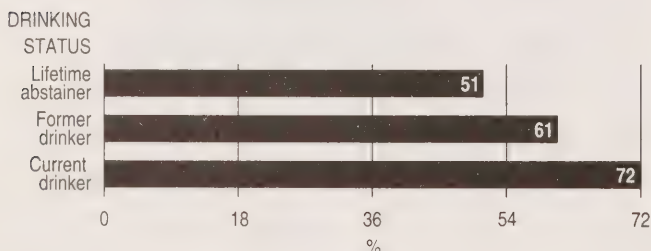
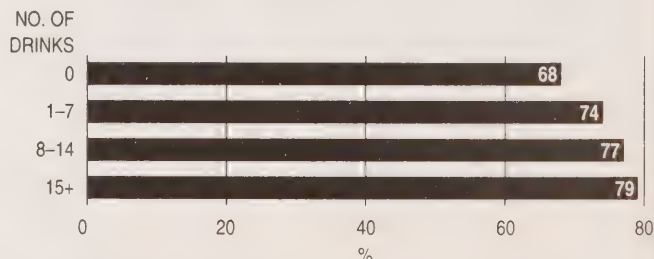


Figure 33:
Percentage of current drinkers who know someone with a drinking problem, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



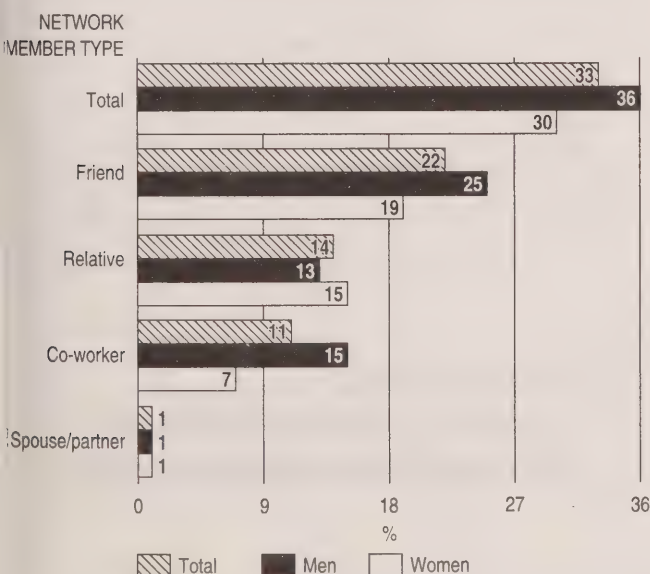
General Findings

The data suggest that 33% of adult Canadians (approximately seven million people) know someone with a drug abuse problem (Figure 34 and Table 45). More than one out of five Canadians (22%) has a friend with a drug abuse problem. One out of seven (14%) has a relative with a drug abuse problem, and one out of ten (11%) knows a co-worker with such a problem. Only 1% of Canadians report that their spouse or partner has a drug abuse problem.

Men (36%) are slightly more likely than women (30%) to report that they know someone with a drug abuse problem (Figure 34 and Table 45). Men are more likely than women to report that they have a friend (25% vs. 19%) or a co-worker (15% vs. 7%) with a drug problem. However, a slightly higher percentage of women (15%) than men (13%) report that they have a relative with a drug abuse problem. One percent of men and women report that they have a spouse with a drug abuse problem.

The likelihood of knowing someone with a drug abuse problem decreases with age (Figure 35 and Table 45). For example, 46% of 15 to 19 year olds

Figure 34:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drug problem, by network member type and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



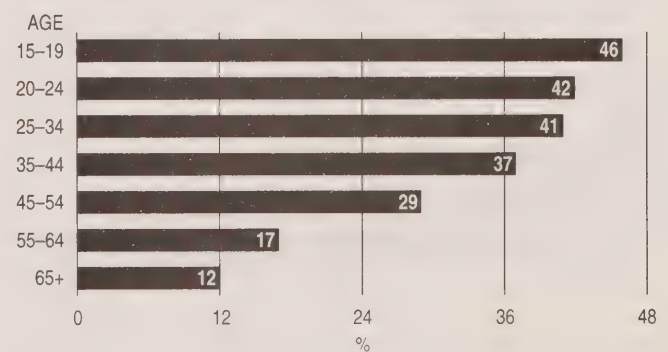
report that they know someone with a drug abuse problem, compared to 17% of 55 to 64 year olds and 12% of those 65 years of age and older. Regardless of age, a higher percentage of men than women report knowing someone with a drug problem — with one exception. Females 15 to 19 years of age (50%) are significantly more likely to report knowing someone with a drug problem than males of the same age group (42%).

The data suggest that the likelihood of knowing someone with a drug abuse problem is highest in British Columbia (39%) and lowest in Newfoundland (24%) (Table 46). All other provinces are within two percentage points of the national rate (33%). These findings are generally consistent with earlier results (see Chapter 1) that suggest that British Columbia has the highest rate of illicit drug use and Newfoundland has the lowest.

The data suggest that Canadians with more than a high-school education are somewhat more likely to know someone with a drug problem than those with high school or less (Table 47). Thirty-nine percent of Canadians with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree know someone with a drug problem, followed by those with a university degree (35%), those who have completed high school (31%) and those with less than a high-school education (29%).

The findings indicate that the likelihood of knowing someone with a drug abuse problem increases slightly with income (Table 48). For

Figure 35:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drug problem, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



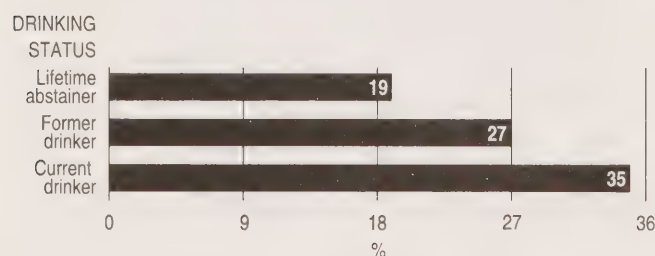
example, 37% of Canadians with an annual household income of \$60,000 or more report that they know someone with a drug abuse problem, compared to 30% of those in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 and 29% of those in households earning less than \$10,000 a year.

The data also suggest that students and those who are looking for work are more likely to know someone with a drug problem than those in other occupational categories. Forty-five percent of students report that they know someone with a drug problem, followed by those who are looking for work (41%), blue-collar workers (38%), managers/professionals (37%), other white-collar workers (35%), those who are retired (24%) and homemakers (14%) (Table 49).

In general, Canadians who are either single (never married) (45%) or separated/divorced (42%) are more likely to know someone with a drug problem than those who are married (28%) or widowed (11%) (Table 50). The data also suggest that English-speaking (34%) and French-speaking (34%) Canadians are more likely to know someone with a drug problem than Canadians who speak another language in their home (13%) (Table 51).

Canadians who are current users of either alcohol or illicit drugs are significantly more likely to know someone with a drug problem than both former users and lifetime abstainers. For example, 35% of Canadians who used alcohol in the year preceding the survey report that they know someone with a drug problem, compared to 27% of former drinkers and 19% of lifetime abstainers (Figure 36). Similarly, a

Figure 36:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drug problem, by drinking status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 11,634 Pop. est. (000s) = 20,285

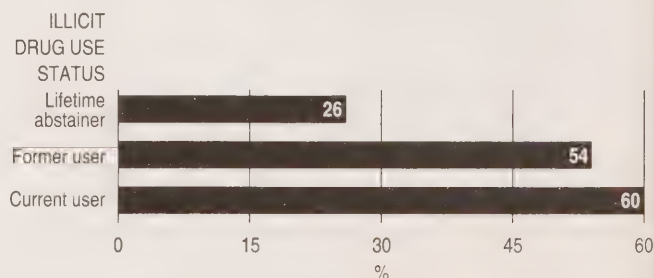
majority (60%) of Canadians who used illicit drugs in the year preceding the survey report that they know someone with a drug problem, compared to 54% of former users and 26% of those who have never used such substances (Figure 37). This finding is consistent with the data discussed earlier in this report (see Chapter 3) that reveal that current users of alcohol and other drugs tend to associate with people who have similar habits.

Discussion

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that two out of three Canadians (69%) know someone with a drinking problem, and that one out of three Canadians (33%) know someone with a drug problem. This is further evidence that most Canadians are either directly or indirectly affected by the consequences of drug and alcohol use.

In general, Canadians who know problem drinkers and drug abusers tend to fit the demographic profile of problem drinkers and drug abusers themselves. In particular, both the likelihood of being a heavy alcohol or other drug user and the likelihood of knowing someone with an alcohol or other drug problem decrease with age. Men are also more likely to both use alcohol and other drugs and have friends or co-workers with drug or alcohol problems. The fact that women are more likely to report that their spouse has an alcohol problem is consistent with the fact that men are more likely to drink heavily and

Figure 37:
Percentage of Canadians who know someone with a drug problem, by whether or not they have used illicit drugs, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Sample size (N) = 11,634 Pop. est. (000s) = 20,285

more likely to report that their own drinking has caused marital difficulties.

Of great significance is the finding that heavy drinkers, especially those who have experienced problems as a result of their own alcohol use, are more likely than other Canadians to know someone with a drinking problem. Similarly, current users of illicit drugs are much more likely to know someone with a drug problem than people who do not use illicit drugs. This finding is consistent with the results of previous research, which indicate that drug users and heavy drinkers usually associate with people who engage in the same behaviours (see discussion in Chapter 3). This exposure to other heavy drinkers and drug users most likely explains why they are more likely to witness the negative aspects of drug and alcohol use than other Canadians.

The results of the survey suggest that Canadians are particularly likely to know a relative with an alcohol- or other drug-related problem. It has long been observed that alcohol and other drug problems seem to “run in families.” A recent series of studies has established that the children of alcoholic parents have an enhanced risk of developing drinking problems, even when they are raised in non-problem drinking environments. This finding suggests that people may be biologically predisposed to the development of alcohol and other drug problems. However, many people without family histories also develop alcohol- and other drug-related problems, whereas many people with family histories do not (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 1990).

Thus, although certain genetic vulnerabilities may be important, cultural and social factors must also be considered. Indeed, many previous studies have established that social relationships play an important role in the initiation, development and maintenance of drinking and other drug-using behaviour (Oetting and Beauvais 1987; Kandel 1984–85). It is such environmental factors that likely explain why people with their own alcohol and other drug problems are likely to know other people with similar difficulties.

Part Six:

Perception of Community-Level Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Definitions

This section examines the extent to which Canadians believe various alcohol- and other drug-related problems exist in their own neighbourhood or community. Each respondent was asked whether or not they felt seven specific problems existed in their community or neighbourhood enough for them to be concerned (Q80 in Appendix B). The problems were: a) drinking and driving; b) family conflicts related to alcohol use; c) public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use; d) alcohol-related health problems; e) problems in the workplace due to alcohol use; f) misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs; and g) illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs.

General Findings

Three out of five Canadians (61%) report that their community or neighbourhood suffers from some type of drug- or alcohol-related problem. The data suggest that drinking and driving is the most common community-level problem (Figure 38 and Table 52). Almost half of Canadians (44%) feel that drinking and driving exists in their community enough for them to be concerned.

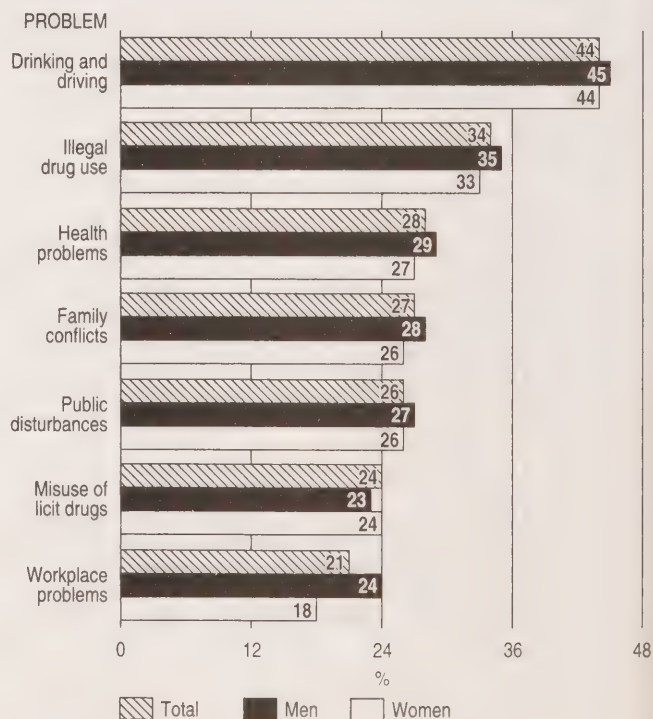
Illegal drug use is apparently the second most commonly mentioned community-level problem. Over one-third of the population (34%) maintain that illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drug use is a serious problem in their neighbourhood or community.

Three out of ten Canadians (28%) maintain that their community suffers from alcohol-related health problems, followed by family conflicts related to alcohol use (27%), public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use (26%) and the misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs (24%). Almost as many Canadians (21%) feel that their community has problems in the workplace as a result of alcohol use (Figure 38 and Table 52).

A similar percentage of men and women report the existence of each type of community-level problem — with one exception (Figure 38 and Table 52). Men (24%) are somewhat more likely than women (18%) to report that their community suffers from alcohol-related problems in the workplace. This finding probably reflects the fact that a higher percentage of men are active in the labour force and are thus more likely to be exposed to alcohol-related problems in this setting.

The incidence of perceived community problems associated with alcohol and other drugs is relatively high in the Atlantic provinces and British Columbia and relatively low in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec (Figure 39 and Table 53). For example, 59% of the residents of New Brunswick report that drinking and

Figure 38:
Percentage of Canadians who feel that various alcohol- and other drug-related problems exist in their community, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



driving is a serious problem in their community, followed by Newfoundland (57%), British Columbia (56%), Prince Edward Island (55%), Saskatchewan (54%), Nova Scotia (51%), Manitoba (48%), Alberta (43%), Ontario (42%) and Quebec (41%). Similarly, 37% of the residents of New Brunswick feel that public disturbances caused by alcohol use represent a serious problem in their community, followed by Newfoundland (35%), British Columbia (32%), Prince Edward Island (30%), Nova Scotia (30%), Manitoba (28%), Saskatchewan (28%), Alberta (27%), Quebec (25%) and Ontario (24%).

The data suggest that young and middle-aged Canadians are more likely than older Canadians to identify community-level problems with alcohol and other drugs (Figure 40 and Table 53). For example, 55% of 20 to 24 year olds report that drinking and driving is a problem in their community, compared to 44% of 45 to 54 year olds and 31% of those 65 years of

age and older. Similarly, 40% of 20 to 24 year olds report that illegal drug use is a problem in their community, compared to 34% of 45 to 54 year olds and 21% of those 65 years of age and older.

The data suggest that there is a positive relationship between education and the likelihood of reporting community-level problems with alcohol and other drugs (Figure 41 and Table 54). For example, 48% of Canadians with a university degree maintain that drinking and driving is a serious problem in their community, compared to 41% of those with less than a secondary school education. Similarly, 39% of Canadians with a university degree report that illegal drug use is a serious problem in their community, compared to 30% of those with less than a secondary school education. However, there is little difference between educational groups in terms of the percentage reporting community problems with public disturbances or fights as a result of alcohol use.

Unlike education, income does not appear to influence whether or not Canadians experience community-level problems with alcohol and other drug use (Table 55). For example, an equal percentage of Canadians in the highest and lowest income groups

Figure 39:
Percentage of Canadians who feel that drunk driving and illegal drugs are problems in their community, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

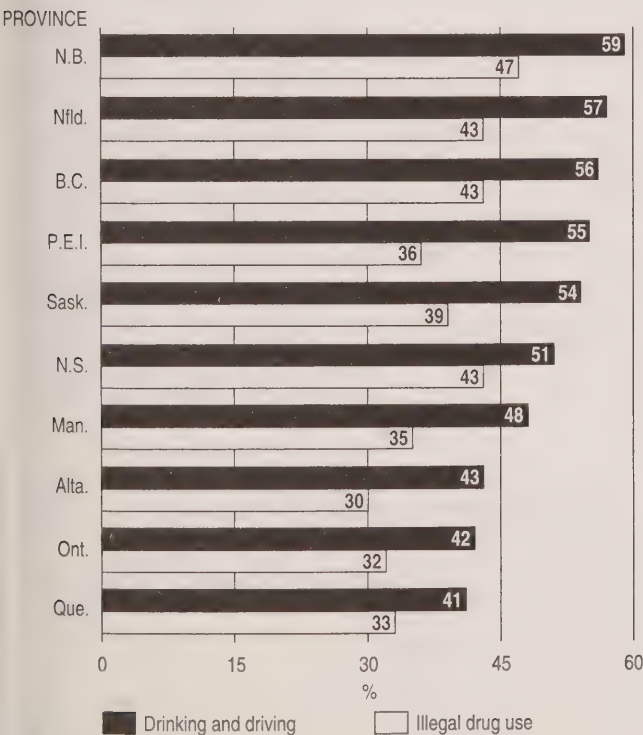
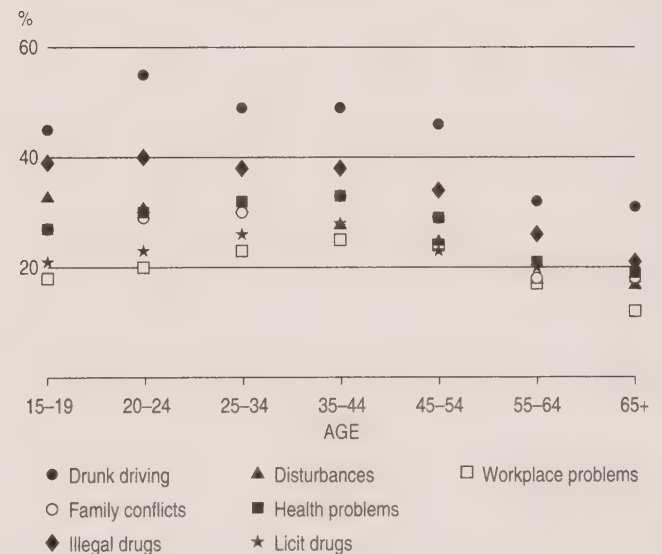


Figure 40:
Percentage of Canadians who feel that various alcohol- and other drug-related problems exist in their community, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



report problems with drinking and driving (45% each) and illegal drug use (35% each).

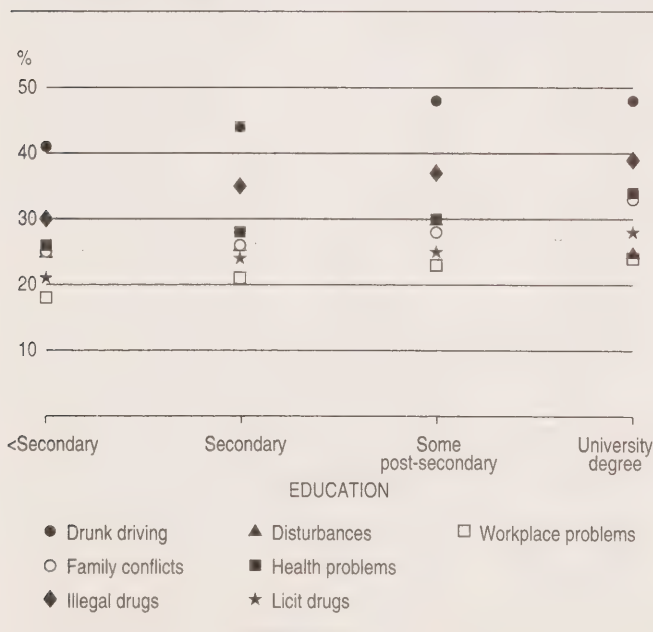
Managers/professionals, students and those who are looking for work are more likely to report community-level problems than those in other occupational categories (Table 56). For example, 40% of students report that their community has a problem with illegal drugs, followed by managers/professionals (39%), those looking for work, blue-collar workers and other white-collar workers (36% each), homemakers (28%) and those who are retired (23%). Similarly, 51% of those who are looking for work feel that drinking and driving is a serious problem in their community, followed by managers/professionals and students (50% each), blue-collar workers (47%), other white-collar workers (44%), homemakers (39%) and those who are retired (32%).

In general, Canadians who are single (never married), separated or divorced are more likely to report community-level problems with alcohol and other drugs than those who are married or widowed (Table 57). For example, 43% of separated Canadians and 39% of single Canadians report that their community

has a serious problem with illegal drugs, compared to 32% of married Canadians and 20% of those who are widowed. The only apparent exception to this general pattern is the fact that a similar percentage of married and single Canadians (21% each) report that their community suffers from alcohol-related problems in the workplace.

Finally, the data also suggest that Anglophones are somewhat more likely than Francophones to report that their community has serious problems with drinking and driving (46% vs. 41%), family conflicts due to alcohol use (28% vs. 25%) and problems associated with illegal drug use (35% vs. 33%). However, Francophones (24%) are somewhat more likely than Anglophones (20%) to report that their community has workplace problems as a result of alcohol use. Similar percentages of French- and English-speaking Canadians report that their community has a serious problem with the misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs or suffers from public disturbances and health problems due to alcohol use. French- and English-speaking Canadians are significantly more likely to report each type of community-level problem than those who speak another language (Table 58).

Figure 41:
Percentage of Canadians who feel that various alcohol- and other drug-related problems exist in their community, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Discussion

The majority of Canadians (61%) feel that their community suffers from at least one problem related to drug or alcohol use. Unfortunately, the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey is the only study that has directly examined people's perceptions of alcohol- and other drug-related problems in their communities. Thus, we cannot compare the results of the present study with the findings of previous research. However, estimates of the social costs of alcohol and other drug use support the notion that problems with drugs and alcohol are widespread.

Alcohol- and other drug-related social costs are difficult to estimate accurately, although a number of attempts to do so have been made in recent years. Holmes (1976) conducted a cost-benefit analysis of alcohol consumption in Ontario in the early 1970s. Costs consisted of related health care costs due to excess morbidity resulting from alcohol-related illnesses, reduced labour activity costs estimated on the basis of accident rates and law enforcement costs. Hi

method has since been applied to produce the more recent Canadian figures provided below (Adrian et al. 1988).

In 1984, alcohol and other drug use in Canada had an estimated social cost of approximately \$21.8 billion. This figure consists of \$12.8 billion in excess health care costs, \$5.1 billion in reduced labour productivity and \$3.9 billion in law enforcement expenditures (Adrian et al. 1988).

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey show that alcohol-related problems are more common than problems caused by illegal and prescription drugs. This is consistent with findings that indicate that the social costs of heavy drinking are greater than the social costs of other drug use. In 1984, the social costs of alcohol use in Canada reached an estimated \$11.9 billion, compared to \$4.6 billion for licit drugs and \$4.6 billion for illegal drugs (Adrian et al. 1988).

In 1984, excess health care costs due to alcohol use reached \$6.0 billion dollars. Alcohol use also cost \$2.5 billion in reduced labour productivity. The law enforcement costs due to heavy drinking were estimated at \$1.8 billion, and the social welfare costs due to drinking reached \$1.3 billion. The costs of traffic accidents due to drinking were estimated at \$305 million.

Excess health care costs due to illegal drug use were estimated at \$2.7 billion in 1984. Approximately \$1.0 billion represents the value of lost labour productivity due to illegal drug use. Law enforcement costs due to illegal drugs were estimated at \$849 million. In 1984, prescription drugs cost an estimated \$1.4 billion in excess health care, \$1.5 billion in reduced labour activity and \$1.5 billion in law enforcement expenditures (Adrian et al. 1988).

Data on the economic costs of alcohol and other drug use, combined with the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, suggest that the consequences of alcohol and other drug use are widespread in Canadian society. However, it is promising to note that research has demonstrated that treatment for alcohol and other drug abusers may actually reduce general health care costs (Holder 1987). One implication is that increased spending on alcohol and other drug treatment programs may

actually reduce the overall social costs of alcohol and other drug abuse. Clearly, the overall economic costs of alcohol and other drug abuse dwarf the amounts of money being spent to study and combat this problem.

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Table 1:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported ever experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	20.6	10.5	11.6	6.7	5.5	3.5	5.4
Male	4,332	8,310	25.2	13.3	14.2	7.7	6.9	4.9	7.4
Female	4,428	7,441	15.4	7.3	8.6	5.5	3.9	1.9	3.1
15-19	610	1,385	26.9	10.2	10.4	*7.3	*4.9	*5.5	*8.4
Male	307	726	31.8	*11.8	*12.8	*9.6	*6.7	*8.0	*12.5
Female	303	659	21.4	*8.5	*7.8	*4.8	—	—	*3.9
20-24	925	1,787	28.7	14.4	15.2	8.3	*5.6	*6.0	11.0
Male	456	955	34.4	17.0	18.5	*7.7	*5.8	*7.3	15.2
Female	469	832	22.1	*11.4	*11.4	*8.9	*5.4	*4.5	*6.2
25-34	2,634	4,061	25.1	14.0	15.3	9.1	6.7	4.3	7.1
Male	1,261	2,130	29.4	16.9	18.4	9.8	7.1	5.9	9.3
Female	1,373	1,931	20.4	10.8	12.0	8.3	*6.3	*2.7	*4.7
35-44	1,912	3,293	19.1	10.1	11.0	7.3	6.7	*2.8	*3.1
Male	967	1,683	23.5	13.3	12.9	8.5	9.4	*4.4	*4.3
Female	945	1,611	14.5	6.8	9.0	*6.0	*3.8	—	*1.8
45-54	1,013	2,065	16.1	7.9	10.3	*5.2	*4.8	*3.2	*4.0
Male	538	1,145	21.8	11.2	13.6	*7.2	*6.6	*4.3	*4.9
Female	475	920	*9.0	*3.6	*6.1	—	—	—	*2.9
55-64	787	1,683	13.0	*6.8	*7.2	*3.4	*3.6	*1.9	*2.2
Male	397	906	16.6	*9.5	*9.3	*4.5	*5.9	*3.3	*4.1
Female	390	777	*8.9	*3.6	*4.7	—	—	—	—
65+	879	1,477	10.3	*4.9	*6.1	*2.0	*2.7	—	—
Male	406	766	*14.2	*7.6	*8.4	—	*3.8	—	—
Female	473	711	*6.1	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 2:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
15-19	610	1,385	23.8	*8.6	8.9	*6.1	*4.5	*5.1	*8.1
Male	307	726	28.1	*11.2	*10.9	*7.8	*6.4	*7.6	*12.1
Female	303	659	19.0	*5.7	*6.6	*4.3	—	—	—
20-24	925	1,787	22.9	9.0	12.0	*5.2	*4.5	*4.6	9.0
Male	456	955	28.5	*10.4	14.5	*3.8	*4.7	*5.3	*12.2
Female	469	832	16.5	*7.4	*9.2	*6.8	*4.2	*3.7	*5.4
25-34	2,634	4,061	13.3	5.4	8.6	4.5	3.8	*2.0	4.4
Male	1,261	2,130	15.6	6.3	10.4	*4.6	*3.7	*2.7	*5.7
Female	1,373	1,931	10.9	*4.4	6.6	*4.4	*3.9	—	*3.0
35-44	1,912	3,293	10.6	*3.8	6.7	*3.2	*2.5	*1.1	*1.8
Male	967	1,683	12.8	*4.9	8.3	*3.0	*3.0	—	*2.0
Female	945	1,611	8.4	*2.7	*5.1	*3.3	*2.0	—	*1.6
45-54	1,013	2,065	8.0	*3.2	*5.8	*2.9	*2.8	*1.5	*2.7
Male	538	1,145	*10.3	*4.4	*7.3	*4.0	*4.0	—	*3.3
Female	475	920	*5.1	—	*3.9	—	—	—	—
55-64	787	1,683	*4.5	—	*3.0	—	—	—	—
Male	397	906	*4.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	390	777	*4.1	—	*3.4	—	—	—	—
65+	879	1,477	*4.3	—	*2.8	—	—	—	—
Male	406	766	*5.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	473	711	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Canada	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
Nfld.	653	289	13.9	*6.0	*6.0	*3.7	*3.4	*2.0	*3.6
Male	351	164	15.6	*7.4	*6.1	*4.0	*4.5	*3.2	*4.5
Female	302	125	*11.6	*4.3	*5.8	—	—	—	—
P.E.I.	537	63	14.0	7.9	7.2	*4.2	*5.3	*2.6	*6.3
Male	295	34	20.4	*12.5	*10.6	*6.1	*9.0	—	*9.3
Female	242	29	*6.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
N.S.	873	491	13.2	5.2	6.3	*4.2	*3.2	*1.4	*4.2
Male	428	261	17.0	*7.2	*8.4	*5.9	*5.2	—	*5.8
Female	445	231	*8.8	*3.0	*3.9	—	—	—	—
N.B.	554	376	12.5	*4.5	*7.1	*5.5	*3.9	*2.7	*3.1
Male	304	208	17.1	*5.6	*10.8	*8.1	*6.0	*4.0	*4.4
Female	250	168	*6.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Que.	1,372	3,999	13.2	4.1	9.6	3.1	*2.5	*2.3	4.3
Male	666	2,140	17.3	*5.8	12.4	*4.1	*3.4	*3.4	6.0
Female	706	1,859	8.5	*2.1	*6.5	*2.0	*1.4	—	*2.4
Ont.	1,549	5,812	10.5	4.7	6.2	3.0	2.8	*1.8	3.1
Male	750	3,053	11.3	5.2	6.8	*2.2	*2.5	*1.7	*3.5
Female	799	2,759	9.5	*4.1	5.5	*3.9	*3.0	*1.9	*2.8
Man.	752	658	14.1	*4.7	7.3	*4.9	*2.9	*2.7	*3.8
Male	355	346	16.3	*6.1	*7.7	*5.8	*4.2	*5.0	*5.4
Female	397	312	11.6	*3.2	*6.8	*3.9	—	—	—
Sask.	713	587	13.8	6.5	*5.5	*4.9	*3.5	*2.6	*4.3
Male	342	308	19.2	*9.7	*6.6	*7.2	*5.9	*4.8	*7.9
Female	371	279	7.8	—	*4.4	—	—	—	—
Alta.	821	1,496	14.3	6.0	6.6	*3.9	*3.6	*2.5	*4.7
Male	404	795	16.8	*6.7	*8.3	*5.3	*4.9	*3.7	*7.1
Female	417	701	11.5	*5.1	*4.7	*2.3	—	—	—
B.C.	936	1,982	12.7	*3.8	5.8	*4.0	*3.7	*1.2	*3.8
Male	437	1,002	15.1	*4.4	*6.5	*2.8	*3.6	—	*5.3
Female	499	979	10.2	*3.2	*5.1	*5.2	*3.8	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	13.6	5.8	7.6	4.5	4.1	*2.6	4.9
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	11.5	4.3	6.2	3.0	3.2	*1.5	3.1
Some post-secondary									
non-university degree	2,206	4,092	13.9	5.1	8.6	3.5	*2.7	*2.4	4.7
University degree	1,363	2,498	9.2	2.9	6.1	*2.8	*1.2	*1.2	*1.8

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 5:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
<\$10,000	474	569	17.2	5.7	10.0	6.3	*3.8	*3.6	8.1
\$10,000–\$19,999	1,384	1,892	15.3	6.4	9.8	6.2	4.9	4.3	5.4
\$20,000–\$39,999	2,773	4,477	11.2	4.3	6.6	3.4	*3.2	*1.4	3.9
\$40,000–\$59,999	1,859	3,788	10.9	4.0	6.6	*3.1	*3.0	*1.5	*2.4
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	13.2	4.6	8.3	*2.2	*2.1	*1.3	3.8

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 6:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	10.0	*3.0	7.3	*2.3	*1.6	—	*1.7
Male	1,013	1,969	10.8	*3.3	7.9	*2.0	*2.4	—	*1.7
Female	1,006	1,555	9.1	*2.7	*6.5	*2.6	—	—	*1.8
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	11.7	5.2	7.0	4.7	4.2	*2.6	3.9
Male	648	1,277	13.4	*6.6	*7.3	*5.3	*4.9	*2.5	*5.2
Female	1,198	2,048	10.7	*4.3	6.8	*4.4	*3.7	*2.6	*3.1
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	16.4	7.3	8.9	4.6	4.9	*2.6	5.7
Male	1,572	2,830	16.6	7.3	9.4	*3.7	*4.1	*2.6	5.6
Female	226	397	*14.8	*6.8	—	*10.8	*10.3	—	—
Looking for work	239	384	*19.3	*8.7	*11.1	*7.7	—	—	*11.6
Male	137	223	*26.0	—	*16.1	—	—	—	*17.0
Female	102	160	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Student	811	1,751	21.2	7.7	9.2	*4.9	*3.1	*4.9	8.1
Male	387	900	25.5	*8.4	*11.0	*5.0	*4.1	*8.2	*12.0
Female	424	851	16.7	*6.8	*7.2	*4.7	—	—	*3.9
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	*6.9	*1.6	*4.5	*1.6	—	—	—
Male	22	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1,019	1,683	*6.3	*1.6	*4.0	—	—	—	—
Retired	868	1,528	*4.3	—	*2.5	—	—	—	—
Male	476	892	*5.6	—	*3.1	—	—	—	—
Female	392	636	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	78	142	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	48	92	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	30	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 7:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
Married	4,774	9,294	7.8	2.7	5.1	2.2	2.4	*1.0	1.6
Male	2,442	4,981	8.6	3.3	5.8	*2.3	2.7	*1.1	*1.8
Female	2,332	4,314	6.8	*2.2	4.4	*2.1	*2.2	—	*1.4
Separated	356	455	*16.6	—	*10.2	*6.6	—	—	—
Male	152	204	*22.0	—	*14.0	—	—	—	—
Female	204	251	*12.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Divorced	534	718	*10.3	*5.5	*5.7	*4.6	—	—	—
Male	214	315	*11.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	320	404	*9.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widowed	486	609	*7.4	—	*5.2	—	—	—	—
Male	98	127	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	388	482	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never married	2,605	4,667	21.8	8.5	11.2	5.7	4.1	4.1	8.5
Male	1,424	2,680	25.8	10.0	13.4	5.6	5.0	5.3	11.4
Female	1,181	1,987	16.4	6.4	8.2	*5.9	*2.9	*2.5	*4.4

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
English	7,028	11,186	12.6	5.0	6.6	3.6	3.3	2.0	3.8
Male	3,436	5,773	14.8	5.9	7.7	3.4	3.7	2.5	5.0
Female	3,592	5,413	10.2	4.0	5.4	3.7	2.8	*1.4	2.5
French	1,488	3,785	12.8	4.0	9.5	*3.3	*2.5	*2.2	3.9
Male	740	2,011	17.2	*6.0	12.5	*4.5	*3.5	*3.4	*5.8
Female	748	1,775	7.8	*1.9	*6.1	*1.9	—	—	*1.8
Other	193	673	*6.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	133	478	*6.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	60	195	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by stress level and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Stress level/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
Very stressful	1,184	2,056	21.6	9.6	12.8	7.8	6.6	*3.5	7.4
Male	544	997	24.3	*12.3	13.8	*7.6	*7.1	*4.1	*9.1
Female	640	1,058	19.1	*7.1	11.9	*7.9	*6.2	*3.0	*5.8
Fairly stressful	3,837	7,091	13.9	5.1	8.2	4.2	3.4	2.1	4.0
Male	1,907	3,811	16.9	6.0	9.9	4.5	4.4	*3.2	5.8
Female	1,930	3,280	10.4	4.1	6.2	*3.7	*2.4	*0.9	*2.0
Not very stressful	2,662	4,795	8.2	2.8	4.3	*1.7	*1.6	*1.4	2.8
Male	1,313	2,469	10.5	*3.9	5.7	*2.1	*1.8	*1.6	*3.6
Female	1,349	2,325	5.9	*1.6	*2.9	*1.3	*1.4	*1.3	*1.8
Not at all stressful	1,064	1,787	*6.1	*2.1	*3.7	—	—	—	*1.5
Male	563	1,025	*8.2	*2.6	*5.3	—	—	—	—
Female	501	762	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 10:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by frequency of alcohol consumption and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Drinking frequency/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
Less than once per month	2,435	4,078	5.3	*1.5	3.4	*1.8	*1.4	—	*1.0
Male	728	1,395	*6.9	—	*4.8	*2.5	*2.2	—	—
Female	1,707	2,683	*4.4	*1.4	*2.7	*1.5	*1.0	—	—
1–3 times per month	2,274	3,871	9.6	3.7	5.1	*3.0	*2.6	*2.1	*2.8
Male	992	1,803	11.1	*4.6	*5.3	*2.6	*2.3	*2.2	*2.7
Female	1,282	2,068	8.2	*2.9	*5.0	*3.3	*2.9	*2.1	*3.0
Once per week	1,658	2,935	13.4	5.5	6.3	*2.4	*2.3	*1.7	*3.7
Male	953	1,690	15.9	*6.7	*7.3	*3.0	*2.8	*2.5	*4.9
Female	705	1,245	*9.9	*3.9	*4.9	—	—	—	—
2–3 times per week	1,578	3,099	19.9	7.4	11.6	5.8	4.2	*3.1	6.7
Male	1,078	2,130	19.2	6.9	11.7	*4.5	*3.4	*3.2	7.9
Female	500	969	21.4	*8.7	*11.4	*8.6	*5.8	—	*4.1
4+ times per week	766	1,684	20.1	8.1	14.1	*6.5	*6.9	*3.7	7.6
Male	562	1,252	20.1	*8.8	13.9	*6.2	*8.1	*4.3	*7.8
Female	204	432	*20.3	—	*14.7	*7.6	—	—	*7.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of drinks/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	8.1	3.3	4.7	2.9	2.6	*1.7	2.3
Male	1,716	3,159	9.9	4.2	5.8	*3.2	*3.2	*2.5	*2.9
Female	2,613	4,218	6.8	*2.6	3.9	*2.6	*2.2	*1.1	*1.9
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	11.0	4.0	6.1	2.6	*1.6	*1.2	2.9
Male	1,639	3,281	11.7	4.5	6.2	*2.3	*1.3	*1.4	*3.2
Female	1,533	2,736	10.2	*3.4	6.0	*3.0	*2.0	*1.0	*2.4
8-13 drinks	690	1,184	24.6	*9.2	15.1	*6.0	*4.7	*2.5	*7.5
Male	502	892	23.6	*7.6	15.0	*4.8	*4.3	—	*8.3
Female	188	292	*27.6	*14.0	*15.4	*9.8	—	—	—
14+ drinks	569	1,174	32.5	12.0	19.1	*9.8	10.6	*7.7	14.0
Male	475	979	32.8	13.3	19.4	*9.2	*11.4	*8.1	15.3
Female	94	195	*30.9	—	*17.5	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by their own alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by number of times they consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of times/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Any problems	Friends/ social life	Physical health	Outlook on life	Home life/ marriage	Work/ studies	Financial position
Total population	8,760	15,752	12.3	4.7	7.1	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.8
Male	4,332	8,310	14.8	5.7	8.5	3.7	3.5	2.6	5.1
Female	4,428	7,441	9.5	3.5	5.5	3.3	2.4	*1.3	2.4
0 times	4,111	7,770	3.7	*0.8	2.6	*0.9	*0.8	—	*0.7
Male	1,378	3,037	*3.9	—	*2.6	*1.1	—	—	—
Female	2,733	4,733	3.6	*0.9	*2.6	*0.8	*0.9	—	*0.6
1-5 times	2,491	4,424	12.1	4.5	6.1	3.5	3.0	*1.9	*2.8
Male	1,318	2,553	10.6	*3.2	5.9	*2.0	*2.6	*1.8	*2.7
Female	1,173	1,871	14.2	*6.3	*6.4	*5.7	*3.7	*2.1	*2.9
6-14 times	957	1,556	23.7	9.7	12.3	*5.9	*4.3	*3.0	*6.4
Male	678	1,119	22.6	*9.7	11.3	*4.8	*3.9	*2.8	*6.1
Female	279	436	26.5	*9.8	*14.7	*8.7	—	—	*7.1
15+ times	1,072	1,816	39.6	16.6	24.6	12.2	11.3	8.4	17.3
Male	881	1,492	38.1	16.9	23.2	10.8	10.9	8.7	16.9
Female	191	323	46.2	*15.5	30.8	*18.7	*13.1	—	*18.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:
Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	18.8
Male	4,332	8,310	27.4
Female	4,428	7,441	9.2
15-19	610	1,385	12.0
Male	307	726	16.4
Female	303	659	*7.0
20-24	925	1,787	24.4
Male	456	955	31.6
Female	469	832	16.2
25-34	2,634	4,061	26.7
Male	1,261	2,130	39.2
Female	1,373	1,931	12.9
35-44	1,912	3,293	20.6
Male	967	1,683	30.1
Female	945	1,611	10.5
45-54	1,013	2,065	18.2
Male	538	1,145	28.3
Female	475	920	5.8
55-64	787	1,683	8.7
Male	397	906	12.8
Female	390	777	*4.0
65+	879	1,477	5.2
Male	406	766	9.6
Female	473	711	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 14:

Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Canada	8,760	15,752	18.8
Nfld.	653	289	15.8
P.E.I.	537	63	17.2
N.S.	873	491	12.7
N.B.	554	376	21.2
Que.	1,372	3,999	21.8
Ont.	1,549	5,812	16.0
Man.	752	658	23.4
Sask.	713	587	29.1
Alta.	821	1,496	20.4
B.C.	936	1,982	17.0

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 15:

Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Total population	8,760	15,752	18.8
Male	4,332	8,310	27.4
Female	4,428	7,441	9.2
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	14.6
Male	1,437	2,514	20.3
Female	1,168	1,920	7.0
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	20.8
Male	1,153	2,279	32.3
Female	1,321	2,325	9.5
Some post-secondary			
non-university degree	2,260	4,092	21.8
Male	1,008	2,025	32.2
Female	1,252	2,066	11.6
University degree	1,363	2,498	18.4
Male	712	1,440	25.5
Female	651	1,058	*8.6

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 16:

Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Total population	8,760	15,752	18.8
Male	4,332	8,310	27.4
Female	4,428	7,441	9.2
<\$10,000	474	569	13.9
Male	179	246	20.9
Female	295	323	—
\$10,000–\$19,999	1,384	1,892	16.1
Male	608	869	21.9
Female	776	1,023	11.2
\$20,000–\$39,999	2,773	4,477	18.6
Male	1,396	2,335	27.7
Female	1,377	2,142	8.6
\$40,000–\$59,999	1,859	3,788	22.5
Male	1,031	2,135	31.7
Female	828	1,653	10.6
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	24.5
Male	711	1,818	32.8
Female	560	1,223	11.6

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 17:

Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Total population	8,760	15,752	18.8
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	22.7
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	20.0
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	31.0
Looking for work	239	384	13.2
Student	811	1,751	12.5
Retired	868	1,528	6.8
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	5.5
Other	78	142	—

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 18:

Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Total population	8,760	15,752	18.8
Married	4,774	9,294	17.5
Separated/divorced	890	1,174	22.0
Widowed	486	609	*3.6
Never married	2,605	4,667	22.6

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 19:

Percentage of current drinkers who drove a car in the year preceding the survey after consuming two or more drinks in the previous hour, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drove after consuming 2+ drinks in the previous hour
Total population	8,760	15,752	18.8
Male	4,332	8,310	27.4
Female	4,428	7,441	9.2
English	7,028	11,186	18.2
Male	3,436	5,773	26.7
Female	3,592	5,413	9.2
French	1,488	3,785	22.5
Male	740	2,011	33.2
Female	748	1,775	10.3
Other	193	673	10.6
Male	133	478	*13.7
Female	60	195	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 20:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	6.9
Male	4,332	8,310	11.5
Female	4,428	7,441	1.8
15-19	610	1,385	*6.4
Male	307	726	*9.8
Female	303	659	—
20-24	925	1,787	11.9
Male	456	955	19.8
Female	469	832	—
25-34	2,634	4,061	9.0
Male	1,261	2,130	15.2
Female	1,373	1,931	*2.1
35-44	1,912	3,293	6.7
Male	967	1,683	11.1
Female	945	1,611	*2.1
45-54	1,013	2,065	*4.5
Male	538	1,145	*7.5
Female	475	920	—
55-64	787	1,683	*4.5
Male	397	906	*8.4
Female	390	777	—
65+	879	1,477	*2.2
Male	406	766	—
Female	473	711	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 21:

Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Canada	8,760	15,752	6.9
Male	4,332	8,310	11.5
Female	4,428	7,441	1.8
Nfld.	653	289	9.0
Male	351	164	15.3
Female	302	125	—
P.E.I.	537	63	10.2
Male	295	34	16.4
Female	242	29	—
N.S.	873	491	8.0
Male	428	261	13.4
Female	445	231	—
N.B.	554	376	11.2
Male	304	208	19.0
Female	250	168	—
Que.	1,372	3,999	4.1
Male	666	2,140	7.4
Female	706	1,859	—
Ont.	1,549	5,812	6.4
Male	750	3,053	10.7
Female	799	2,759	*1.6
Man.	752	658	8.9
Male	355	346	15.2
Female	397	312	—
Sask.	713	587	8.3
Male	342	308	14.5
Female	371	279	—
Alta.	821	1,496	9.2
Male	404	795	15.0
Female	417	701	*2.6
B.C.	936	1,982	9.8
Male	437	1,002	15.1
Female	499	979	*4.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 22:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Total population	8,760	15,752	6.9
Male	4,332	8,310	11.5
Female	4,428	7,441	1.8
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	8.6
Male	1,437	2,514	13.4
Female	1,168	1,920	*2.4
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	6.8
Male	1,153	2,279	12.6
Female	1,321	2,325	—
Some post-secondary non-university degree	2,260	4,092	6.8
Male	1,008	2,025	12.1
Female	1,252	2,066	*1.6
University degree	1,363	2,498	4.0
Male	712	1,440	*5.1
Female	651	1,058	*2.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 23:
Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Total population	8,760	15,752	6.9
Male	4,332	8,310	11.5
Female	4,428	7,441	1.8
<\$10,000	474	569	*11.1
Male	179	246	*18.8
Female	295	323	—
\$10,000–\$19,999	1,384	1,892	8.0
Male	608	869	13.0
Female	776	1,023	*3.7
\$20,000–\$39,999	2,773	4,477	7.2
Male	1,396	2,335	12.7
Female	1,377	2,142	*1.3
\$40,000–\$59,999	1,859	3,788	6.9
Male	1,031	2,135	11.2
Female	828	1,653	—
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	6.6
Male	711	1,818	10.4
Female	560	1,223	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 24:

Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Total population	8,760	15,752	6.9
Male	4,332	8,310	11.5
Female	4,428	7,441	1.8
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	5.3
Male	1,013	1,969	7.6
Female	1,006	1,555	*2.3
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	5.1
Male	648	1,277	10.4
Female	1,198	2,048	*1.8
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	14.0
Male	1,572	2,830	15.4
Female	226	397	—
Looking for work	239	384	*11.5
Male	137	223	*19.7
Female	102	160	—
Student	811	1,751	7.7
Male	387	900	12.9
Female	424	851	—
Retired	868	1,528	*3.0
Male	476	892	*4.3
Female	392	636	—
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	—
Male	22	48	—
Female	1,019	1,683	—
Other	78	142	—
Male	48	92	—
Female	30	50	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 25:

Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Total population	8,760	15,752	6.9
Married	4,774	9,294	4.8
Separated/divorced	890	1,174	11.6
Widowed	486	609	—
Never married	2,605	4,667	10.8

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 26:

Percentage of current drinkers who have had contact with the police because of their own alcohol use, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Had contact with police because of alcohol use
Total population	8,760	15,752	6.9
Male	4,332	8,310	11.5
Female	4,428	7,441	1.8
English	7,028	11,186	8.0
Male	3,436	5,773	13.4
Female	3,592	5,413	2.3
French	1,488	3,785	4.3
Male	740	2,011	7.9
Female	748	1,775	—
Other	193	673	*3.7
Male	133	478	—
Female	60	195	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 27:

Percentage of Canadians who reported ever experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had financial problems
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	51.9	36.0	16.4	21.0	36.9	7.0	8.4	20.1	47.6	5.4
Male	5,291	9,920	52.5	35.6	14.8	14.2	39.3	8.9	9.0	24.2	47.3	3.4
Female	6,343	10,365	51.3	36.4	17.8	27.6	34.6	5.2	7.8	16.1	47.9	7.4
15-19	838	1,866	43.7	37.5	14.4	18.2	27.6	*4.4	13.5	22.4	39.4	*4.3
Male	412	956	38.7	31.4	12.4	12.8	26.3	*4.5	13.0	24.7	34.4	*4.5
Female	426	910	49.0	43.8	16.5	23.8	28.9	*4.3	14.1	19.9	44.6	*4.0
20-24	1,049	2,034	58.8	43.9	16.5	22.4	43.2	7.4	12.9	27.8	49.6	*3.6
Male	489	1,027	58.2	44.1	17.2	15.3	49.3	*9.6	12.4	33.8	45.1	—
Female	560	1,007	59.5	43.6	15.9	29.6	37.0	*5.2	13.5	21.8	54.3	*5.3
25-34	3,059	4,670	59.8	45.0	17.1	24.2	43.7	8.3	10.2	24.7	54.1	5.9
Male	1,396	2,318	59.0	45.3	115.3	18.4	47.4	11.5	11.8	29.9	53.4	4.3
Female	1,663	2,352	60.6	44.8	18.9	29.9	40.0	5.1	8.5	19.7	54.8	7.3
35-44	2,352	3,962	59.3	38.9	19.9	24.4	42.1	8.4	8.2	23.0	54.8	7.1
Male	1,152	1,971	58.9	38.1	17.6	16.4	43.6	10.6	9.1	28.6	53.8	*4.2
Female	1,200	1,991	59.7	39.8	22.2	32.4	40.7	6.2	7.3	17.5	55.8	10.0
45-54	1,371	2,701	53.8	33.8	19.6	21.8	36.8	7.9	6.7	18.4	48.9	5.4
Male	673	1,349	58.5	35.5	18.9	14.2	38.3	9.5	*5.9	22.3	51.6	*3.4
Female	698	1,352	49.1	32.1	20.4	29.3	35.4	*6.4	7.5	14.5	46.2	7.4
55-64	1,207	2,334	42.5	26.6	13.1	17.3	30.7	4.6	*3.4	13.0	42.8	5.7
Male	529	1,137	40.1	23.0	10.9	*7.8	29.1	*5.6	*3.7	13.7	41.7	—
Female	678	1,197	44.8	30.1	15.1	26.3	32.3	*3.8	*3.2	12.4	43.8	9.3
65+	1,758	2,718	33.8	19.6	10.7	13.9	24.6	5.5	4.8	8.0	32.9	4.3
Male	640	1,162	40.2	19.9	*8.2	*8.3	29.2	*6.7	*5.8	9.2	37.1	*2.3
Female	1,118	1,557	29.1	19.4	12.6	18.1	21.2	*4.5	*4.0	7.0	29.7	*5.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 28:

Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had financial problems
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
15-19	838	1,866	34.4	31.7	11.3	10.2	20.9	*2.0	8.5	17.4	31.7	*2.3
Male	412	956	29.6	26.4	*10.5	*6.5	21.0	—	*7.3	20.5	27.2	—
Female	426	910	39.5	37.3	*12.1	14.1	20.8	—	*9.7	14.2	36.4	*2.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	40.9	33.0	11.3	12.8	25.1	*2.9	7.4	17.6	38.7	*2.4
Male	489	1,027	41.8	32.7	*11.7	*6.5	33.1	*4.2	*5.7	21.6	37.8	—
Female	560	1,007	39.9	33.3	*10.9	19.2	17.0	—	*9.1	13.6	39.5	*3.7
25-34	3,059	4,670	25.8	22.1	7.2	10.9	13.4	*0.9	4.2	8.5	32.3	*2.2
Male	1,396	2,318	25.4	22.2	7.3	7.2	16.4	*1.3	*4.6	11.3	30.9	*2.3
Female	1,663	2,352	26.2	22.1	7.1	14.6	10.4	—	*3.8	5.8	33.6	*2.2
35-44	2,352	3,962	21.2	13.7	5.8	7.6	8.0	—	*2.2	5.2	27.9	*2.1
Male	1,152	1,971	22.5	13.5	*4.9	*5.7	9.2	—	*1.7	6.8	28.6	*1.7
Female	1,200	1,991	19.8	13.9	6.7	9.5	6.7	—	*2.6	*3.5	27.2	*2.4
45-54	1,371	2,701	16.6	10.8	5.4	5.5	5.9	—	*2.0	*3.8	22.4	*1.4
Male	673	1,349	19.4	12.7	*4.4	*3.8	*6.6	—	*2.3	*4.4	22.9	—
Female	698	1,352	13.8	*8.9	*6.4	*7.1	*5.2	—	—	*3.3	21.8	—
55-64	1,207	2,334	9.7	6.3	*2.1	*3.6	*2.8	—	—	*1.8	17.0	—
Male	529	1,137	*10.3	*5.3	—	—	*3.3	—	—	*2.7	17.0	—
Female	678	1,197	*9.1	*7.3	*2.3	*5.9	*2.4	—	—	—	17.1	—
65+	1,758	2,718	5.1	*3.0	*1.9	*2.9	*1.7	—	—	—	9.8	—
Male	640	1,162	*6.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.5	—
Female	1,118	1,557	*4.2	*3.6	*2.5	*4.7	—	—	—	—	9.2	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 29:
Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated		Had arguments or quarrels		Broke off with a friend		Had family problems	
			Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
Canada	11,634	20,285	51.9	21.5	36.0	16.6	16.4	6.2	21.0	7.7
Male	5,291	9,920	52.5	22.1	35.6	16.4	14.8	5.9	14.2	4.8
Female	6,343	10,365	51.3	20.6	36.4	16.7	17.8	6.5	27.6	10.5
Nfld.	961	427	52.8	25.7	32.9	17.9	16.4	7.6	17.3	8.1
Male	446	211	56.9	25.5	32.8	16.7	19.0	*7.1	12.3	*5.3
Female	515	216	48.8	26.0	33.0	19.1	14.0	8.2	22.2	10.9
P.E.I.	828	98	60.4	25.6	37.7	18.4	18.2	7.8	20.5	8.0
Male	412	48	60.8	26.0	34.4	16.4	18.9	*7.4	15.6	*5.4
Female	416	50	60.1	25.1	40.9	20.4	17.6	*8.1	25.3	10.6
N.S.	1,259	690	60.1	25.4	40.0	17.9	16.9	6.7	23.2	7.8
Male	557	336	64.1	29.1	41.6	19.4	16.5	6.7	19.4	7.5
Female	702	354	56.2	21.9	38.5	16.4	17.3	6.7	26.8	8.0
N.B.	812	552	35.1	23.9	34.7	17.4	16.0	6.5	20.3	8.5
Male	386	269	55.8	24.3	33.3	19.2	14.5	*6.7	13.1	*6.6
Female	426	283	54.3	23.5	36.0	15.6	17.4	*6.4	27.1	10.3
Que.	1,808	5,237	33.2	12.0	28.0	11.1	14.8	4.5	19.4	6.4
Male	789	2,541	32.9	12.4	27.6	11.2	12.1	4.4	11.7	*3.4
Female	1,019	2,697	33.6	11.7	28.4	11.0	17.4	4.6	26.6	9.2
Ont.	1,974	7,486	55.2	23.2	37.3	17.7	16.4	6.8	20.4	7.6
Male	899	3,653	56.4	23.1	36.9	17.0	14.4	6.0	14.0	4.6
Female	1,075	3,832	54.1	23.4	37.8	18.3	18.3	7.6	26.6	10.5
Man.	947	830	59.3	24.6	39.1	17.6	17.1	5.7	20.5	7.0
Male	418	406	62.8	26.2	41.2	19.8	16.2	*6.1	14.8	*4.6
Female	529	425	56.0	23.0	37.1	15.6	18.0	*5.2	26.0	9.2
Sask.	921	748	64.7	26.4	38.2	18.2	18.6	6.0	22.2	8.6
Male	412	370	65.8	28.4	40.3	18.5	19.4	*6.3	16.0	*7.0
Female	509	378	63.6	24.3	36.2	17.9	17.8	*5.7	28.4	10.1
Alta.	992	1,826	64.2	27.0	44.2	22.0	18.8	7.9	24.2	8.7
Male	460	911	62.9	28.1	43.3	20.5	17.6	7.5	19.3	*5.3
Female	532	916	65.5	25.9	45.0	23.5	20.0	8.2	29.0	12.2
B.C.	1,132	2,390	62.5	26.1	40.9	19.0	16.6	6.2	24.1	10.0
Male	512	1,174	61.8	29.1	38.4	18.8	16.5	*6.3	14.4	*6.0
Female	620	1,215	63.1	23.2	43.4	19.2	16.6	*6.1	33.4	13.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Been a passenger with a drunk driver		Been in a car accident		Property was vandalized		Been pushed, hit or assaulted		Been disturbed by loud parties		Had financial problems	
Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
36.9	10.4	7.0	0.9	8.4	3.4	20.1	7.2	47.6	25.9	5.4	1.7
39.3	12.6	8.9	1.3	9.0	3.3	24.2	9.2	47.3	25.7	3.4	1.4
34.6	8.3	5.2	*0.6	7.8	3.5	16.1	5.3	47.9	26.1	7.4	2.0
35.6	12.3	6.6	—	6.9	*3.0	21.0	8.3	34.6	18.4	*3.7	—
46.8	16.2	9.2	—	*7.1	*2.8	27.4	10.7	34.0	16.7	—	—
24.7	8.4	*4.1	—	*6.7	*3.2	14.8	*6.0	35.1	20.1	*5.6	—
36.5	11.2	8.7	—	9.4	*3.0	22.1	7.4	36.4	18.9	5.9	*2.0
43.9	13.1	12.1	—	9.4	*3.3	29.0	10.8	35.0	18.5	*4.0	—
29.4	9.3	*5.4	—	9.3	—	15.5	*4.1	37.8	19.2	*7.7	—
36.6	10.2	6.9	*1.1	9.9	4.5	22.7	9.5	42.1	23.7	6.1	*2.1
43.8	13.2	8.7	—	12.1	*5.7	30.4	14.3	41.0	23.3	*5.0	*2.5
29.7	7.3	*5.1	—	7.8	*3.4	15.3	*4.9	43.2	24.1	7.1	—
39.8	12.0	9.8	*1.8	7.5	*2.7	19.9	7.8	41.8	20.1	*4.5	*1.4
46.6	16.2	13.7	*3.2	*7.9	*3.3	24.6	10.2	39.7	18.2	—	—
33.3	*8.1	*6.0	—	*7.1	—	15.4	*5.5	43.7	21.9	*7.5	—
33.3	9.7	7.5	*1.2	3.5	*1.2	10.1	3.2	36.2	17.4	6.2	*1.7
34.9	11.6	10.6	*1.8	3.9	*1.2	10.6	4.1	36.5	18.3	4.3	*1.6
31.8	7.9	4.6	—	*3.1	*1.1	9.7	*2.3	35.9	16.5	7.9	*1.9
34.4	8.7	5.7	*0.6	10.0	4.3	21.5	8.0	49.7	29.0	4.9	*1.4
35.0	10.3	6.4	—	10.7	*3.7	25.6	9.7	49.8	29.1	*2.8	—
33.9	7.3	5.2	—	9.3	4.9	17.7	6.4	49.6	28.9	6.8	*1.8
44.4	14.1	9.0	—	9.9	*3.0	25.3	8.9	55.9	30.0	5.2	*1.1
52.6	19.7	11.6	—	10.9	*3.0	33.0	11.9	54.9	30.9	*4.2	—
36.5	8.7	*6.4	—	8.9	*3.0	17.9	*6.1	56.9	29.1	*6.2	—
48.9	15.9	8.5	*1.3	9.8	*3.4	21.9	7.7	52.7	27.1	*4.1	*1.8
55.0	19.2	12.9	—	10.4	*3.1	28.5	10.3	50.6	27.7	*4.1	*2.4
43.0	12.7	*4.2	—	9.3	*3.6	15.4	*5.1	54.8	26.6	*4.0	—
45.4	14.4	7.6	*1.3	9.3	4.5	28.9	10.1	58.7	31.1	6.0	*2.4
48.8	17.7	9.8	*2.3	9.7	*4.8	36.0	13.1	55.9	26.9	*3.1	*2.2
42.0	11.2	*5.4	—	8.8	*4.2	21.9	7.2	61.4	35.3	8.8	*2.7
39.3	10.5	7.7	—	12.5	4.4	27.1	9.0	58.8	32.8	6.0	*2.0
41.1	12.0	9.1	—	12.7	*4.8	33.4	11.9	59.1	32.4	*3.5	—
37.6	9.1	*6.2	—	12.3	*4.0	21.0	*6.3	58.6	33.3	8.5	*2.6

■ Table 30:

Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had financial problems
Total population	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	19.5	15.6	7.1	7.4	8.5	*0.8	3.3	7.2	20.4	2.4
Male	1,962	3,349	19.9	15.1	5.7	4.8	9.8	*1.0	*3.4	8.5	20.1	*1.8
Female	2,179	3,395	19.1	16.2	8.4	9.9	7.2	—	*3.3	6.0	20.8	3.0
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	22.5	18.3	6.7	8.8	12.2	*0.9	3.0	7.1	25.9	*1.9
Male	1,350	2,597	25.0	19.8	7.4	5.2	14.5	*1.5	*2.8	10.1	24.0	*1.7
Female	1,766	3,071	20.5	17.1	6.1	11.9	10.3	—	*3.2	4.5	27.6	*2.1
Some post-secondary non-university degree	2,693	4,764	26.0	19.9	6.0	7.9	13.6	*1.6	4.3	8.9	32.1	*1.4
Male	1,137	2,271	27.5	19.6	6.3	*4.3	18.8	*2.4	*4.3	11.8	32.6	*1.4
Female	1,556	2,494	24.7	20.1	5.8	11.1	8.8	—	*4.4	6.2	31.7	*1.4
University degree	1,577	2,865	17.1	10.9	*3.7	6.8	7.0	—	*2.6	4.8	29.9	—
Male	804	1,606	15.8	9.9	*3.5	*5.1	*7.3	—	*2.3	*5.8	31.2	—
Female	773	1,259	18.6	12.2	*4.1	—	*6.6	—	*2.9	*3.6	28.2	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 31:

Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had financial problems
Total population	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
<\$10,000	861	951	20.4	16.2	*8.8	*10.5	13.3	—	*4.7	*8.2	25.6	*3.9
Male	255	325	*22.6	*16.0	*11.2	—	*21.9	—	—	*12.3	30.1	—
Female	606	626	*19.3	*16.3	*7.5	*12.4	*8.8	—	*4.8	*6.1	23.3	—
\$10,000–\$19,999	2,118	2,882	18.2	13.8	7.4	9.2	9.6	*1.5	*3.3	7.0	22.1	*2.9
Male	836	1,197	18.0	12.6	*5.2	*5.0	10.2	*2.6	*3.3	*8.4	20.6	—
Female	1,282	1,685	18.3	14.6	9.0	12.1	9.1	—	*3.2	*5.9	23.2	*3.8
\$20,000–\$39,999	3,487	5,588	22.5	16.4	6.8	8.2	10.4	*0.9	3.3	6.4	27.1	*1.7
Male	1,683	2,809	22.8	14.7	6.3	*4.1	12.9	*1.4	*2.6	7.5	25.7	*1.8
Female	1,804	2,779	22.2	18.1	7.4	12.4	8.0	—	*4.1	5.3	28.4	*1.7
\$40,000–\$59,999	2,134	4,380	23.8	19.5	5.1	7.9	10.1	*0.6	3.1	6.1	28.6	*1.3
Male	1,142	2,355	23.7	20.5	*4.7	5.8	11.8	—	*3.2	8.1	27.8	—
Female	992	2,025	23.9	18.4	*5.5	10.4	8.3	—	*3.0	*3.8	29.5	*1.9
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	22.3	16.9	4.8	6.4	11.1	*0.9	*3.6	8.7	29.3	*1.0
Male	782	1,972	23.2	16.2	*5.4	*3.2	12.3	—	*3.6	10.8	28.2	—
Female	613	1,337	21.0	18.0	*3.9	11.0	9.3	—	*3.5	*5.7	31.0	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 32:

Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had financial problems
Total population	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
Manager/ professional	2,305	3,991	21.0	14.4	4.7	7.8	9.9	—	3.2	5.8	32.1	*1.0
Male	1,128	2,170	19.5	13.9	*4.3	*4.8	9.8	—	*2.6	5.9	30.4	—
Female	1,177	1,821	22.9	14.8	*5.3	11.4	10.1	—	*4.0	*5.8	34.2	*1.6
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	26.3	20.6	6.9	10.2	10.9	*0.6	4.0	9.1	31.4	*2.3
Male	770	1,510	30.4	20.1	*6.2	*7.8	11.7	—	*4.6	14.3	33.6	*2.0
Female	1,486	2,534	23.9	20.8	7.2	11.6	10.4	—	*3.6	6.0	30.1	*2.5
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	25.4	20.4	7.1	6.2	14.3	*1.9	*3.1	8.5	23.6	*2.3
Male	1,831	3,192	25.0	19.9	6.4	4.3	15.0	*2.1	*2.9	8.9	23.2	*1.9
Female	314	555	27.9	23.0	*11.5	*17.2	*10.0	—	*4.6	*6.5	26.2	—
Looking for work	311	470	31.6	23.4	*12.2	*11.8	*20.2	—	—	*13.5	27.1	—
Male	178	279	30.9	*21.7	*11.3	—	*24.6	—	—	*17.1	*28.3	—
Female	133	191	*32.6	*25.8	*13.4	*16.2	*13.8	—	—	—	*25.3	—
Student	1,059	2,265	32.2	28.1	11.2	9.6	19.0	*1.3	7.8	15.2	33.6	*1.8
Male	497	1,133	28.0	23.5	*10.7	*6.4	23.3	—	*6.7	17.8	31.2	—
Female	562	1,133	36.3	32.8	11.6	12.8	14.8	—	*8.9	12.7	36.0	—
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	14.1	12.1	4.9	8.9	4.9	—	*1.7	*2.9	20.5	*2.0
Male	41	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1,725	2,672	14.3	12.2	5.0	9.1	4.9	—	*1.8	*2.8	20.3	*2.0
Retired	1,570	2,587	6.5	*3.4	*2.3	*3.4	*2.4	—	—	*1.6	10.6	—
Male	723	1,313	*7.1	*2.3	*2.2	—	*2.3	—	—	*2.0	10.4	—
Female	847	1,273	*5.9	*4.4	*2.3	*5.8	*2.6	—	—	—	10.9	—
Other	118	204	*16.5	*12.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	*30.3	—
Male	76	135	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*24.8	—
Female	42	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*41.0	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 33:
Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/ Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandal- ized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had finan- cial problems
Total population	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
Married	6,292	11,832	16.4	11.9	4.1	6.8	6.0	*0.5	2.2	3.9	23.3	1.2
Male	3,011	5,962	17.0	11.0	3.8	3.4	6.2	*0.7	*2.1	5.1	23.4	*0.8
Female	3,281	5,870	15.9	12.8	4.4	10.1	5.8	—	2.4	2.7	23.1	*1.7
Separated	452	597	26.4	20.2	*12.1	*11.5	*11.6	—	—	*11.6	35.1	—
Male	180	255	*27.1	*21.3	—	—	*17.8	—	—	*11.5	38.0	—
Female	272	342	*25.9	*19.3	*14.9	*14.2	—	—	—	*11.7	32.9	—
Divorced	667	921	28.1	18.3	*10.9	*8.2	*12.3	—	*3.0	*7.6	29.3	*3.6
Male	261	370	28.4	*20.7	*9.6	—	*14.0	—	—	*11.9	29.7	—
Female	406	551	28.0	*16.6	*11.8	*9.1	*11.2	—	—	*4.7	29.0	—
Widowed	1,011	1,235	*5.5	*3.0	—	*2.6	—	—	—	—	12.1	—
Male	162	206	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	849	1,029	*4.7	*3.2	—	*3.1	—	—	—	—	12.9	—
Never married	3,206	5,693	33.4	28.6	10.0	10.4	21.2	*1.9	6.4	14.8	32.9	2.5
Male	1,674	3,122	31.8	26.6	9.3	7.3	25.1	*2.4	5.8	17.0	29.7	*2.0
Female	1,532	2,571	35.4	30.9	10.9	14.3	16.5	*1.1	7.3	12.2	36.7	*3.0

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 34:
Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandal- ized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had finan- cial problems
Total population	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
English	9,261	14,145	25.3	19.0	6.7	8.7	11.0	0.9	4.2	8.9	29.5	1.7
Male	4,212	6,887	26.2	18.5	6.3	5.8	13.2	*1.2	4.1	11.2	28.8	*1.3
Female	5,049	7,257	24.5	19.4	7.1	11.4	9.0	*0.6	4.3	6.6	30.1	2.1
French	1,966	4,946	12.2	11.1	4.7	6.1	9.8	*1.3	*1.3	3.3	17.7	*1.8
Male	872	2,389	13.1	11.8	*4.7	*2.8	12.2	*1.9	*1.5	*4.5	19.0	*1.8
Female	1,094	2,557	11.5	10.6	*4.7	9.2	7.6	—	*1.1	*2.1	16.5	*1.8
Other	323	1,019	13.1	*11.1	*5.8	*3.9	*6.2	—	—	*3.5	18.7	—
Male	173	581	*13.3	*11.5	*5.5	—	*8.7	—	—	*5.0	*17.9	—
Female	150	438	*12.9	*10.5	*6.1	*6.1	—	—	—	—	*19.6	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 35:

Percentage of Canadians who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking in the year preceding the survey, by drinking status, number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Drinking status/ No. of drinks/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated	Had arguments or quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had family problems	Been a passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car acci- dent	Property was vandal- ized	Been pushed, hit or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had finan- cial problems
Total population	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	*0.6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
Lifetime abstainer	840	1,349	9.8	*8.3	*3.9	*4.0	*3.0	—	—	*4.6	16.5	—
Male	203	371	*13.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	*7.8	*21.5	—
Female	637	977	*8.4	*9.1	*3.1	*4.8	—	—	—	*3.3	14.6	—
Former drinker	2,032	3,182	13.5	9.5	6.5	6.3	*3.4	—	*2.0	*3.6	22.6	*1.2
Male	755	1,238	13.8	*8.3	*5.3	*4.7	*4.1	—	*2.6	*4.0	23.7	—
Female	1,277	1,944	13.3	10.3	7.2	7.3	*2.9	—	*1.7	*3.4	21.9	—
Current drinker	8,760	15,752	23.9	18.7	6.3	8.3	12.5	1.0	3.8	8.1	27.4	1.9
Male	4,332	8,310	23.8	18.0	5.9	4.9	14.2	*1.4	3.4	10.0	26.2	*1.5
Female	4,428	7,441	24.1	19.4	6.8	12.2	10.5	*0.6	4.1	6.0	28.7	2.4
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	21.8	17.0	6.8	8.8	8.8	*0.7	3.7	7.2	27.6	2.2
Male	1,716	3,159	21.2	15.1	6.1	4.8	9.9	*0.8	*2.8	9.5	26.6	*1.2
Female	2,613	4,218	22.2	18.4	7.3	11.7	8.0	—	4.3	5.6	28.3	3.0
1–7 drinks	3,172	6,017	23.2	17.6	5.3	7.8	12.1	*0.9	3.1	6.9	26.7	*1.6
Male	1,639	3,281	21.8	16.3	5.1	4.3	12.2	*1.3	*2.7	8.0	25.2	*1.3
Female	1,533	2,736	24.9	19.2	5.5	11.9	12.0	—	*3.5	5.6	28.5	*1.8
8–14 drinks	802	1,430	30.0	22.7	*6.8	*8.2	20.1	—	*4.3	12.9	29.6	—
Male	587	1,079	28.0	21.1	*6.3	*5.9	20.5	—	*5.0	14.0	29.1	—
Female	215	351	36.5	27.6	*8.1	*15.3	*18.7	—	—	*9.6	31.1	—
15+ drinks	457	928	36.1	32.8	*8.8	*8.9	32.4	*3.6	*7.6	15.3	27.0	—
Male	390	792	36.6	32.4	*8.3	*6.7	31.4	*4.2	*6.4	*15.0	25.2	—
Female	67	136	*33.3	*35.4	—	*22.1	*38.0	—	—	—	*37.5	—

High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 36:
Percentage of current drinkers who reported experiencing problems caused by other people's drinking, by number of times they consumed five or more drinks in the year preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

No. of times/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop.est. (000s)	Been insulted or humiliated		Had arguments or quarrels		Broke off with a friend		Had family problems	
			Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	8,631	15,565	55.1	24.0	38.5	18.8	16.0	6.4	21.1	8.4
Male	4,255	8,202	53.8	23.9	37.0	18.1	14.1	6.0	13.8	5.0
Female	4,376	7,364	56.5	24.2	40.2	19.5	18.1	6.8	29.2	12.3
0 times	4,907	9,207	50.1	17.7	31.6	12.8	15.7	5.1	20.2	6.9
Male	1,747	3,777	46.6	15.9	25.9	10.7	13.1	4.7	11.2	2.8
Female	3,160	5,431	52.5	18.9	35.5	14.2	17.6	5.4	26.5	9.7
1-3 times	1,172	2,102	59.0	26.0	40.3	19.6	15.9	7.5	22.2	8.9
Male	628	1,248	54.4	20.0	36.0	13.5	12.9	*5.4	13.7	*4.0
Female	544	853	65.6	34.9	46.5	28.5	20.2	*10.6	34.8	15.9
4-6 times	794	1,311	65.6	32.6	50.5	26.0	16.4	*6.8	23.2	11.2
Male	501	854	62.9	31.1	47.3	23.2	14.3	*5.1	15.2	*5.9
Female	293	457	70.6	35.4	56.4	31.3	20.4	*9.8	38.3	21.1
7+ times	1,758	2,945	63.3	38.7	53.6	33.6	*16.7	9.2	21.9	11.8
Male	1,379	2,322	61.8	36.2	51.6	30.7	16.5	8.7	17.7	8.8
Female	379	623	68.8	47.9	60.8	44.3	17.6	*10.9	37.7	23.1

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Been a passenger with a drunk driver		Been in a car accident		Property was vandalized		Been pushed, hit or assaulted		Been disturbed by loud parties		Had financial problems	
Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey	Ever	In year preceding survey
40.7	12.5	6.8	1.0	8.8	3.8	21.6	8.2	50.0	27.4	5.0	1.9
42.1	14.2	8.5	1.4	8.9	3.4	25.3	10.1	47.9	26.2	2.9	1.5
39.3	10.5	4.8	*0.6	8.6	4.2	17.4	6.0	52.4	28.8	7.4	2.4
32.6	6.0	5.8	*0.6	7.2	2.7	16.2	4.6	50.7	25.5	5.4	1.6
28.5	5.0	7.7	*0.9	6.6	*2.0	18.0	5.7	48.2	23.2	2.6	*1.0
35.4	6.7	4.5	—	7.6	3.2	14.9	3.7	52.5	27.1	7.3	2.1
43.1	10.9	6.6	—	10.8	5.3	24.1	11.4	50.4	29.2	*4.3	*1.4
41.5	9.7	*7.7	—	10.2	*3.6	26.3	12.0	47.3	26.2	—	—
45.3	12.6	*5.0	—	*11.5	*7.7	21.0	*10.5	55.4	33.4	*7.7	—
48.0	15.1	*4.9	—	*6.8	*2.1	24.0	*7.2	51.3	29.9	*3.3	—
49.1	15.3	*5.3	—	*5.2	—	25.6	*6.3	49.6	27.0	—	—
45.9	*14.8	—	—	*10.2	—	21.1	*8.8	54.4	35.1	*6.9	—
61.5	32.8	10.8	*2.8	13.2	6.9	35.6	17.7	47.0	31.3	5.2	3.5
61.7	31.4	11.5	*2.9	13.3	6.4	36.4	17.6	47.3	30.8	4.5	*3.2
60.4	37.8	*8.2	—	*12.8	*8.7	32.3	17.9	45.9	33.4	*8.0	*4.9

Table 37:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
Male	5,291	9,920	70.9	*0.9	40.9	46.2	41.7
Female	6,343	10,365	66.6	6.9	48.7	35.3	21.2
15-19	838	1,866	60.4	—	41.2	30.5	12.6
Male	412	956	59.8	—	37.8	31.1	*14.1
Female	426	910	61.0	—	44.9	29.9	*10.9
20-24	1,049	2,034	72.9	*1.7	48.9	39.4	26.0
Male	489	1,027	74.2	—	41.8	45.1	32.6
Female	560	1,007	71.6	—	56.1	33.6	19.3
25-34	3,059	4,670	73.7	4.1	50.3	43.3	33.5
Male	1,396	2,318	75.2	—	47.3	48.3	42.4
Female	1,663	2,352	72.3	7.2	53.2	38.4	24.8
35-44	2,352	3,962	75.0	4.7	52.4	47.1	40.6
Male	1,152	1,971	75.4	—	46.7	51.5	52.4
Female	1,200	1,991	74.7	7.7	58.1	42.7	29.0
45-54	1,371	2,701	73.3	6.3	45.1	47.9	39.1
Male	673	1,349	78.6	—	42.8	56.1	56.4
Female	698	1,352	68.0	11.2	47.5	39.7	21.9
55-64	1,207	2,334	62.5	5.4	36.2	36.7	28.5
Male	529	1,137	64.7	—	31.6	43.1	39.8
Female	678	1,197	60.3	10.0	40.6	13.7	17.7
65+	1,758	2,718	54.2	*2.2	31.2	30.6	24.7
Male	640	1,162	58.0	—	27.2	38.0	37.4
Female	1,118	1,557	51.4	*3.7	34.3	25.0	15.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 38:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Canada	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
Nfld.	961	427	59.6	*3.9	37.9	33.9	24.4
P.E.I.	828	98	77.4	*5.7	56.7	51.2	32.8
N.S.	1,259	690	74.2	*4.3	48.6	46.0	32.7
N.B.	812	552	74.2	*4.4	53.5	44.1	30.3
Que.	1,808	5,237	61.1	4.1	43.3	31.0	21.9
Ont.	1,974	7,486	67.0	3.5	41.5	39.9	33.1
Man.	947	830	74.7	*4.3	46.8	47.0	37.9
Sask.	921	748	78.9	*3.6	54.0	48.9	35.8
Alta.	992	1,826	76.3	*3.8	51.0	48.8	36.5
B.C.	1,132	2,390	77.9	4.9	48.3	51.6	38.7

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 39:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/ partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	61.9	4.1	42.8	35.6	23.4
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	70.2	5.2	45.1	42.1	31.9
Some post-secondary							
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	75.5	*3.3	48.4	44.0	37.2
University degree	1,577	2,865	75.1	*2.3	46.4	46.8	40.3

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 40:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/ partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
<\$10,000	861	951	64.9	—	46.8	38.8	22.1
\$10,000–\$19,999	2,118	2,882	66.3	*5.5	46.6	40.2	24.3
\$20,000–\$39,999	3,487	5,588	70.3	5.1	45.7	40.5	32.1
\$40,000–\$59,999	2,134	4,380	75.1	4.1	48.7	44.3	38.9
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	75.7	*2.5	46.8	47.6	41.6

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 41:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/ partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	79.6	*3.8	49.2	50.2	43.3
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	71.2	4.8	49.1	42.6	32.1
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	70.8	*2.3	43.6	44.1	41.6
Looking for work	311	470	69.8	—	46.8	47.7	28.1
Student	1,059	2,265	62.0	—	41.3	32.9	17.1
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	63.5	9.3	49.2	32.0	12.2
Retired	1,570	2,587	60.4	*2.7	34.4	34.0	30.4
Other	118	204	74.8	—	52.4	*47.3	*33.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 42:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
Married	6,292	11,832	69.4	5.7	44.0	41.2	34.0
Separated	452	597	78.8	—	60.4	48.9	37.4
Divorced	667	921	80.1	—	55.8	50.4	44.1
Widowed	1,011	1,235	51.1	—	36.3	27.6	18.2
Never married	3,206	5,693	68.1	—	45.0	39.9	25.5

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 43:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
English	9,261	14,145	74.0	4.1	47.3	45.9	35.7
French	1,966	4,946	61.8	4.2	45.7	30.1	21.2
Other	323	1,019	38.0	—	14.2	23.6	19.9

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 44:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced alcohol-related problems, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Drinking status/ No. of drinks	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	68.7	3.9	44.9	40.6	31.2
Lifetime abstainer	840	1,349	50.8	4.3	32.0	24.9	15.8
Former drinker	2,032	3,182	61.2	4.7	44.7	37.0	25.6
Current drinker	8,760	15,752	71.8	3.7	46.0	42.7	33.7
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	68.4	4.4	44.7	39.9	29.4
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	73.6	3.4	47.3	41.9	35.5
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	76.7	*2.5	48.0	52.0	41.3
15+ drinks	457	928	78.9	—	45.2	56.5	44.1

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 45:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
Male	5,291	9,920	35.5	*0.6	12.7	24.6	15.4
Female	6,343	10,365	30.0	1.3	14.6	19.3	7.4
15-19	838	1,866	45.9	—	17.0	38.5	9.6
Male	412	956	41.8	—	14.8	35.3	*10.0
Female	426	910	50.3	—	19.3	41.8	*9.1
20-24	1,049	2,034	42.2	—	14.3	35.2	13.2
Male	489	1,027	46.0	—	13.4	39.6	16.7
Female	560	1,007	38.3	—	15.2	30.6	*9.6
25-34	3,059	4,670	41.0	*1.8	17.6	29.1	14.4
Male	1,396	2,318	45.4	—	17.3	33.5	19.6
Female	1,663	2,352	36.7	*2.7	17.9	24.8	9.3
35-44	2,352	3,962	37.4	*1.3	14.8	22.1	15.9
Male	1,152	1,971	38.2	—	10.8	24.0	20.8
Female	1,200	1,991	36.7	*1.5	18.9	20.2	11.0
45-54	1,371	2,701	29.3	—	14.1	15.6	11.2
Male	673	1,349	35.2	—	14.4	19.5	16.8
Female	698	1,352	23.4	—	13.7	11.8	*5.6
55-64	1,207	2,334	17.0	—	9.1	7.9	6.4
Male	529	1,137	17.9	—	*8.3	*9.3	*9.8
Female	678	1,197	16.1	—	*9.8	*6.6	*3.2
65+	1,758	2,718	12.2	—	5.8	6.1	*3.4
Male	640	1,162	14.4	—	*6.2	*7.0	*4.6
Female	1,118	1,557	10.6	—	*5.6	*5.5	*2.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 46:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Canada	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
Nfld.	961	427	23.8	—	8.3	16.3	7.0
P.E.I.	828	98	32.3	—	10.8	21.5	9.4
N.S.	1,259	690	33.2	*1.0	12.9	22.9	11.2
N.B.	812	552	35.1	—	16.5	22.8	12.4
Que.	1,808	5,237	32.8	*1.3	16.2	21.0	9.6
Ont.	1,974	7,486	30.9	*0.9	12.2	20.8	11.3
Man.	947	830	30.6	—	8.9	22.2	11.4
Sask.	921	748	30.5	—	13.2	20.4	9.0
Alta.	992	1,826	34.5	—	13.5	24.3	12.8
B.C.	1,132	2,390	38.9	—	15.0	26.5	15.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 47:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	29.4	*0.9	13.1	19.5	9.2
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	31.4	*1.1	13.2	21.2	10.7
Some post-secondary							
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	39.1	*0.8	14.9	26.5	15.7
University degree	1,577	2,865	34.6	*1.1	14.6	22.8	11.0

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 48:
Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
<\$10,000	861	951	28.8	—	14.2	19.2	*7.8
\$10,000–\$19,999	2,118	2,882	30.3	*1.3	13.5	20.9	8.7
\$20,000–\$39,999	3,487	5,588	32.7	*1.1	13.8	21.5	11.8
\$40,000–\$59,999	2,134	4,380	37.2	*1.3	15.8	23.4	14.0
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	37.1	—	13.9	24.8	15.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 49:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	37.4	*1.1	16.5	24.7	14.2
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	35.0	*1.4	15.7	23.5	10.9
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	37.6	*1.1	11.9	24.8	18.8
Looking for work	311	470	40.8	—	*18.3	26.6	*13.9
Student	1,059	2,265	45.2	—	16.5	37.2	10.4
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	14.4	—	13.3	13.8	*4.5
Retired	1,570	2,587	23.6	—	6.8	6.9	*4.8
Other	118	204	37.0	—	*12.8	*19.6	*16.5

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 50:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
Married	6,292	11,832	28.0	1.2	12.5	16.0	10.2
Separated/divorced	1,119	1,518	41.9	—	21.5	28.4	14.2
Widowed	1,011	1,235	11.0	—	*6.3	—	—
Never married	3,206	5,693	44.7	—	15.5	36.3	14.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 51:

Percentage of Canadians who report that their network members have experienced a drug problem, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Total	Spouse/partner	Relatives	Friends	Co-workers
Total population	11,634	20,285	32.7	0.9	13.7	21.9	11.3
English	9,261	14,145	34.2	*0.9	13.3	23.5	12.3
French	1,966	4,946	33.5	*1.4	17.0	20.7	10.0
Other	323	1,019	13.0	—	*5.0	*7.8	*6.0

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 52:**
Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol-related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Male	5,291	9,920	44.6	27.6	27.3	29.1	24.0	22.7	35.3
Female	6,343	10,365	43.6	26.3	25.6	27.4	17.5	24.2	32.6
15-19	838	1,866	44.6	26.8	32.9	26.6	18.3	21.5	38.8
Male	412	956	40.3	24.0	31.4	22.5	17.1	20.5	36.5
Female	426	910	49.1	29.7	34.5	30.9	19.6	22.7	41.2
20-24	1,049	2,034	54.9	29.1	31.3	30.2	20.4	23.3	39.5
Male	489	1,027	55.8	28.5	32.2	32.4	21.9	23.4	39.4
Female	560	1,007	53.9	29.7	30.3	28.0	19.0	23.2	39.7
25-34	3,059	4,670	49.5	29.7	31.1	32.0	23.0	25.7	37.8
Male	1,396	2,318	48.7	29.2	31.2	33.3	27.0	23.8	39.6
Female	1,663	2,352	50.3	30.1	31.0	30.6	19.0	27.6	36.0
35-44	2,352	3,962	48.8	32.8	28.4	33.2	25.0	28.0	38.0
Male	1,152	1,971	50.0	34.2	28.6	34.3	29.7	28.9	39.8
Female	1,200	1,991	47.7	31.5	28.2	32.2	20.3	27.2	36.2
45-54	1,371	2,701	43.5	28.6	25.0	29.4	24.3	23.4	33.7
Male	673	1,349	45.2	31.6	27.1	29.9	29.3	22.9	36.5
Female	698	1,352	41.8	25.6	22.8	28.9	19.3	23.8	30.8
55-64	1,207	2,334	32.3	18.0	17.7	20.8	16.9	20.1	26.3
Male	529	1,137	30.5	19.0	18.4	20.9	19.5	18.5	25.9
Female	678	1,197	33.9	17.1	17.1	20.7	14.4	21.6	26.7
65+	1,758	2,718	30.5	18.1	16.5	19.2	12.0	17.4	20.6
Male	640	1,162	34.2	18.9	18.4	21.4	14.4	15.2	22.5
Female	1,118	1,557	27.7	17.4	15.1	17.6	10.2	19.1	19.2

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 53:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol-related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Canada	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Nfld.	961	427	57.1	37.1	34.8	37.4	20.8	26.2	42.8
P.E.I.	828	98	54.5	32.6	30.3	35.2	22.9	25.7	36.4
N.S.	1,259	690	51.0	30.3	29.6	32.0	22.7	27.9	42.6
N.B.	812	552	59.1	38.6	37.1	40.6	28.9	34.2	46.9
Que.	1,808	5,237	40.5	24.2	25.4	27.8	23.0	24.8	33.2
Ont.	1,974	7,486	41.6	26.5	23.9	25.6	18.0	21.5	32.4
Man.	947	830	48.0	29.6	27.8	30.7	23.3	27.0	34.5
Sask.	921	748	54.0	32.8	27.5	35.7	23.1	26.9	38.7
Alta.	992	1,826	42.6	26.7	27.2	29.5	22.2	22.6	30.4
B.C.	1,132	2,390	55.9	32.8	32.1	35.4	24.4	30.3	43.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 54:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol-related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Total population	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Male	5,291	9,920	44.6	27.6	27.3	29.1	24.0	22.7	35.3
Female	6,343	10,365	43.6	26.3	25.6	27.4	17.5	24.2	32.6
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	40.7	25.1	25.5	25.6	18.1	20.7	30.4
Male	1,962	3,349	39.3	25.1	25.1	25.1	19.6	20.1	30.9
Female	2,179	3,395	42.0	25.2	25.9	26.1	16.7	21.3	30.0
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	44.3	26.0	26.2	27.7	20.8	23.7	34.6
Male	1,350	2,597	46.5	26.7	27.9	29.3	25.6	22.3	36.5
Female	1,766	3,071	42.5	25.5	24.8	26.4	16.7	24.9	33.1
Some post-secondary									
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	48.3	28.4	29.9	30.4	23.4	25.4	36.8
Male	1,137	2,271	49.0	28.6	32.2	32.3	27.7	25.0	39.0
Female	1,556	2,494	47.7	28.1	27.9	28.8	19.5	25.8	34.9
University degree	1,577	2,865	48.3	32.7	25.5	33.9	23.8	28.0	38.7
Male	804	1,606	49.0	34.1	25.4	34.3	27.0	26.7	39.7
Female	773	1,259	47.4	30.9	25.5	33.4	19.6	29.7	37.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 55:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol-related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Total population	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Male	5,291	9,920	44.6	27.6	27.3	29.1	24.0	22.7	35.3
Female	6,343	10,365	43.6	26.3	25.6	27.4	17.5	24.2	32.6
<\$10,000	861	951	45.1	29.0	32.0	32.0	18.7	27.1	34.8
Male	255	325	43.9	28.5	32.9	33.3	*20.8	28.2	33.0
Female	606	626	45.7	29.3	31.5	31.4	*17.6	26.6	35.8
\$10,000–\$19,999	2,118	2,882	44.9	27.3	27.7	29.3	18.0	23.5	33.8
Male	836	1,197	46.3	26.9	28.3	30.8	23.9	21.8	36.3
Female	1,282	1,685	44.0	27.5	27.3	28.2	13.8	24.8	32.0
\$20,000–\$39,999	3,487	5,588	44.8	27.9	28.1	29.7	22.1	24.5	35.4
Male	1,683	2,809	44.1	27.4	28.6	28.9	23.4	22.3	35.9
Female	1,804	2,779	45.6	28.4	27.6	30.5	20.8	26.8	34.9
\$40,000–\$59,999	2,134	4,380	47.9	30.2	28.1	30.3	25.8	25.5	37.6
Male	1,142	2,355	46.7	28.5	28.0	30.4	27.9	23.7	38.5
Female	992	2,025	49.3	32.3	28.3	30.1	23.4	27.6	36.6
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	45.3	27.7	23.5	30.0	22.3	25.9	35.1
Male	782	1,972	46.8	30.4	25.7	32.6	27.7	26.4	36.4
Female	613	1,337	43.0	23.7	20.2	26.3	14.2	25.0	33.3

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 56:
Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/ Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop.est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol- related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescrip- tion and over-the- counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Total population	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Male	5,291	9,920	44.6	27.6	27.3	29.1	24.0	22.7	35.3
Female	6,343	10,365	43.6	26.3	25.6	27.4	17.5	24.2	32.6
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	50.3	33.0	28.6	33.7	26.7	28.6	38.9
Male	1,128	2,170	47.8	32.7	27.0	33.4	30.1	26.4	38.8
Female	1,177	1,821	53.2	33.4	30.5	34.1	22.6	31.2	39.1
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	44.1	29.0	28.0	28.1	21.5	23.5	35.8
Male	770	1,510	46.4	32.2	29.6	29.1	25.5	24.9	38.6
Female	1,486	2,534	42.7	27.1	27.0	27.5	19.2	22.7	34.2
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	47.2	27.8	29.0	31.1	26.0	22.7	35.9
Male	1,831	3,192	47.0	27.6	29.2	31.2	26.5	22.1	36.1
Female	314	555	48.0	29.4	28.0	31.0	23.3	26.1	34.8
Looking for work	311	470	51.4	31.3	31.8	39.2	29.4	29.3	36.3
Male	178	279	51.6	33.6	33.7	43.4	33.1	33.4	38.6
Female	133	191	51.0	*28.0	*29.1	*33.0	*23.9	*23.2	*32.8
Student	1,059	2,265	50.0	28.0	33.5	29.5	16.2	23.8	40.3
Male	497	1,133	46.0	24.3	32.9	25.2	14.5	21.4	39.0
Female	562	1,133	54.1	31.6	34.1	33.9	17.9	26.2	41.6
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	39.1	22.2	20.9	22.7	14.2	21.1	27.7
Male	41	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1,725	2,672	39.6	22.5	21.2	23.1	14.4	21.4	27.9
Retired	1,570	2,587	32.3	18.2	17.6	20.0	12.5	19.0	23.3
Male	723	1,313	33.1	17.9	17.3	20.0	14.8	16.2	23.5
Female	847	1,273	31.5	18.4	17.9	20.1	10.2	21.9	23.0
Other	118	204	48.4	*25.6	*33.9	*33.1	*30.9	*28.7	39.6
Male	76	135	*46.8	*23.7	*32.4	*30.4	*31.3	*24.7	*36.9
Female	42	69	*51.6	—	*36.8	*38.3	*30.0	*36.6	*44.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 57:**
Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol-related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Total population	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Male	5,291	9,920	44.6	27.6	27.3	29.1	24.0	22.7	35.3
Female	6,343	10,365	43.6	26.3	25.6	27.4	17.5	24.2	32.6
Married	6,292	11,832	42.9	26.1	23.8	27.6	21.3	23.3	32.4
Male	3,011	5,962	43.1	27.0	24.6	28.4	25.1	22.9	34.1
Female	3,281	5,870	42.6	25.2	23.0	26.7	17.4	23.7	30.6
Separated	452	597	54.1	37.6	33.1	37.5	27.8	29.8	42.5
Male	180	255	55.8	37.4	36.5	41.6	39.0	32.8	46.7
Female	272	342	52.8	37.7	30.7	34.4	*19.4	27.5	39.4
Divorced	667	921	42.9	31.9	30.8	28.4	22.9	29.4	37.7
Male	261	370	47.5	37.2	30.6	28.9	26.6	27.8	39.4
Female	406	551	39.8	28.3	31.0	28.1	*20.4	30.5	36.5
Widowed	1,011	1,235	30.7	16.6	17.5	16.6	10.1	17.8	20.0
Male	162	206	*35.9	*18.8	*17.3	*13.3	—	—	*15.1
Female	849	1,029	29.6	16.2	17.5	17.2	*9.7	19.1	21.0
Never married	3,206	5,693	48.8	28.9	32.5	31.1	20.6	23.4	38.7
Male	1,674	3,122	46.9	27.3	32.0	30.5	21.2	21.7	37.6
Female	1,532	2,571	51.1	30.8	33.2	31.8	19.9	25.6	39.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 58:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that various problems exist in their communities, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Drinking and driving	Family conflicts related to alcohol use	Public fights or disturbances related to alcohol use	Alcohol-related health problems	Problems in the workplace related to alcohol use	Misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	Illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or other drugs
Total population	11,634	20,285	44.1	26.9	26.4	28.2	20.7	23.5	33.9
Male	5,291	9,920	44.6	27.6	27.3	29.1	24.0	22.7	35.3
Female	6,343	10,365	43.6	26.3	25.6	27.4	17.5	24.2	32.6
English	9,261	14,145	46.4	28.4	27.2	28.7	20.1	23.5	35.4
Male	4,212	6,887	47.1	29.3	28.7	29.9	24.1	23.2	37.1
Female	5,049	7,257	45.8	27.5	25.8	27.6	16.2	23.8	33.7
French	1,966	4,946	41.4	25.0	26.4	28.9	24.4	25.4	33.2
Male	872	2,389	42.0	25.2	26.6	30.0	27.0	23.5	33.9
Female	1,094	2,557	40.8	24.8	26.3	27.8	22.0	27.2	32.6
Other	323	1,019	32.5	20.2	19.5	22.3	14.0	16.1	22.7
Male	173	581	30.8	*18.9	*16.0	*18.7	*13.4	*15.2	23.8
Female	150	438	34.7	*21.8	*24.1	*27.2	*14.9	*17.3	*21.2

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Chapter 6: Reasons and Strategies for Quitting or Reducing Alcohol Consumption

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Highlights

Part One: Characteristics of People Who Limit Their Alcohol Consumption



- Almost half (45%) of current drinkers report that they have limited their alcohol consumption at some point in their lives. A higher proportion of men (51%) than women (38%) have limited consumption.
- Current drinkers living in Quebec are the least likely to have ever quit drinking or reduced their alcohol consumption (36%). Residents of Manitoba (56%) and British Columbia (55%) are the most likely to have limited consumption.
- Younger drinkers are more likely to report limiting alcohol consumption than older drinkers.
- The findings suggest that education is not related to attempts at reducing alcohol consumption.
- The relationship between income and limiting alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey is different for men and women. Male drinkers with a household income below \$10,000 are the most likely to have limited consumption in the year preceding the survey. However, there is no variation among men from other income groups. Women with middle incomes are the least likely to have decreased their drinking, and women with high incomes are the most likely.
- Students are the most likely to have limited alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, whereas retired people are the least likely.
- Never-married current drinkers are the most likely to have limited their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, whereas widowed drinkers are the least likely.
- English-speaking drinkers are more likely to have limited consumption (49%) than those who speak French (36%) or some other language (28%).

- Current drinkers who have experienced a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption are more likely to have limited consumption (78%) than those who have never had an alcohol-related problem (36%).

Part Two: Reasons for Quitting or Reducing Consumption of Alcohol



- Three reasons for stopping or reducing alcohol consumption are identified by at least one-quarter of current and former drinkers: pregnancy, diet or athletic training (31%), bad effect on physical health (30%) and had a drinking problem (26%).
- Other reasons for stopping or reducing alcohol consumption include: getting older (18%); bad effect on financial position (16%); bad effect on happiness or outlook (15%); bad effect on family/home life (14%); the influence of family or friends (11%); bad effect on friends or social life (10%); and bad effect on work or studies (9%).
- Men report more reasons for limiting alcohol consumption than women. Men most often report reducing consumption for reasons related to physical health (33%) and drinking problems (31%). Women, on the other hand, most frequently reduced consumption for preventative or medical reasons, such as pregnancy, dieting or athletic training (45%).
- The only reasons that vary in importance by education are pregnancy/diet/athletics (in favour of university-educated people); effects on family/home life (in favour of people with less than secondary school education) and effects on financial position (in favour of people with less than secondary school education).
- People with high incomes are more likely to have limited their alcohol consumption because of pregnancy/diet/athletics than people with low incomes. People with low incomes, however, are more likely than people with high incomes to report reducing consumption because drinking

had a bad effect on their financial position, family or home life and their work or studies.

- People in managerial/professional and other white-collar jobs give almost identical reasons for having reduced alcohol consumption at some point in their past: pregnancy/diet/athletics, effects on physical health, drinking problems and getting older. People in blue-collar jobs are more apt to have reduced their intake because of drinking problems and less likely for reasons related to pregnancy/diet/athletics. People who are looking for work report drinking problems, effects on physical health, effects on happiness and effects on family as reasons for reducing consumption. Retired people report effects on physical health, getting older and drinking problems. Homemakers give very few reasons other than pregnancy/diet/athletics and physical health. These are also the two most common reasons given by students.
- Motivation for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption also varies by current marital status. Separated people are most likely to report drinking problems and bad effect on work or studies. Bad effect on family is reported by 24% of separated people and only 12% of single people. Bad effect on physical health is chosen by 39% of separated people and only 28% of divorced people. Divorced and separated people (22%) are more likely than married people (12%) to report bad effect on financial position. Bad effect on happiness is chosen by 25% of separated people and only 13% of married people.
- The importance of most reasons for limiting alcohol consumption does not vary by language spoken, except for pregnancy/diet/athletics, getting older and effects on physical health. Anglophones (34%) are more likely to limit consumption due to pregnancy/diet/athletics than are Francophones (22%) and those in other language groups (19%). Getting older is chosen by only 13% of Francophones compared to 20% of Anglophones and 23% of people who speak other languages. Bad effect on physical health is chosen by only 27% of Anglophones compared to 39% of Francophones and 47% of people who speak other languages.
- People who have never experienced a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption limited their intake for reasons related to pregnancy/diet/athletics (38%), effects on physical health (19%), getting older (18%) and drinking problems (14%). People who had experienced a harmful effect are more likely to report effects on physical health (46%), drinking problems (45%), pregnancy/diet/athletics (29%), bad effect on happiness (28%) and bad effect on family/home life (27%).

Part Three: Strategies Used to Quit or Reduce Consumption of Alcohol



- In general, current and former drinkers use some strategies more than others: limiting drinks (66%), changing beverage type (39%), fewer visits to bars/taverns (35%), new activities that do not involve drinking (27%), avoiding friends who drink (22%) and skipping parties (20%).
- The relative importance and overall use of most strategies vary by age, with older people reporting fewer strategies than younger people.
- People in different current employment categories report big differences in strategies used during a past attempt at limiting alcohol consumption. Retired people report the least use of all strategies. People who are looking for work and students make the most use of all strategies. The only exception is that white-collar employees other than managers/professionals are the most likely to report changing beverage types.
- People in different current marital status categories report big differences in strategies used during a past attempt at limiting alcohol consumption. People who have never been married report the most use of all strategies. Widowed people report the least use of all strategies.
- Anglophones report more use of all strategies than Francophones. The relative importance of reduction strategies also varies considerably by language spoken.

■ Current drinkers who have experienced a harmful effect from drinking used many more strategies to limit consumption. Thus, limiting consumption for these people involved a much bigger lifestyle change than for people who decide to limit without first experiencing an alcohol-related harmful effect.

Introduction

Research on alcohol consumption often focuses on the reasons why people drink and the use and success of formal treatment programs. The emphasis is usually on people who have a problem with their alcohol consumption. Despite theoretical and policy implications, there is very little information on reasons why individuals voluntarily limit their alcohol consumption or on the day-to-day strategies they use to stop or reduce their drinking. These are important questions in the Canadian context, given the large number of people, with and without serious alcohol problems, who successfully quit drinking or reduce their alcohol consumption for significant periods of time during their lives.

When the focus in this chapter is on reasons for reducing alcohol consumption, only current drinkers are included in the analysis. When the focus is on reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, both former and current drinkers are included.

The first part of this chapter examines attempts at alcohol reduction among current drinkers. The chapter next focuses on reasons given by both former and current drinkers for quitting or reducing their consumption of alcohol. Attention is then placed on common strategies used for limiting alcohol consumption that do not involve formal treatment. Finally, survey findings are discussed in relation to the results of previous research and possible implications for prevention.

Part One:

Characteristics of People Who Limit Their Alcohol Consumption

Definitions



With regard to alcohol consumption, the sample can be divided into three main groups: *lifetime abstainers*, who have never consumed alcohol (7%); *former drinkers*, who consumed alcohol regularly in the past (16%); and *current drinkers*, who consumed at least one alcoholic beverage in the 12 months preceding the survey (78%). The analysis in this section is based on current drinkers only. Former drinkers are excluded in this part of Chapter 6 because, by definition, they have quit drinking and did not consume alcohol in the year preceding the survey. Refer to Chapter 1 for a description of the socio-economic characteristics of former drinkers.

All current drinkers were asked: "Have you ever stopped drinking altogether for a period of time?" (Q37 in Appendix B). If they responded positively, they were asked: "When was the last time? Was it within the past 12 months, 1–5 years ago, or over 5 years ago?" (Q38 in Appendix B). Current drinkers were also asked: "Have you ever reduced or cut down the amount you drink without quitting completely?" (Q40 in Appendix B). If their answer was yes, they were asked: "When was the last time? Was it within the past 12 months, 1–5 years ago, or over 5 years ago?" (Q42 in Appendix B). Data on people who quit and reduced consumption are merged in this chapter, and the terms "limit" or "reduce" are used to refer to both situations.

Because people are reporting on a past event — stopping or reducing consumption — it is possible that their demographic profile at the time of the survey, other than sex, would differ from their status at the time that they actually limited consumption. This caution applies to characteristics such as age, education, income, employment status and marital status. To avoid misinterpretation, this chapter reports on attempts to quit or reduce consumption at two points in time — ever in the respondent's life, and during the year preceding the survey. Any appreciable differences are noted in the text.

General Findings



Almost half (45%) of all current drinkers report that they have limited their consumption of alcohol at some point in their lives. A higher proportion of men (51%) than women (38%) have limited consumption. In the year preceding the survey, 25% of current drinkers quit or reduced their drinking. Again, more men (28%) than women (21%) took this action (Figure 1 and Table 1).

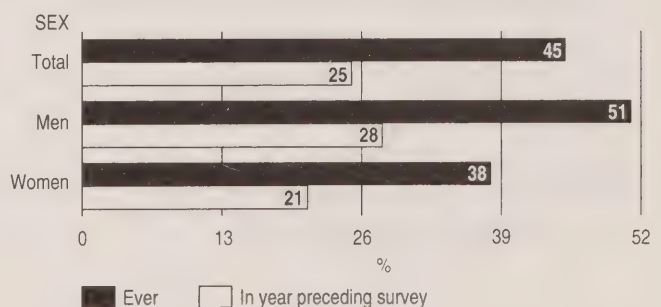
Region



People living in Quebec are the least likely to have ever quit or reduced their alcohol consumption (36%). Residents of Manitoba (56%) and British Columbia (55%) are the most likely to have limited consumption. Over half of the current drinkers in Alberta and New Brunswick also report reducing consumption at some time in their lives. All other provinces range between 44% and 48% (Figure 2 and Table 1).

In each province, more men than women have limited consumption (Table 1). The gap between men and women is greatest in New Brunswick (a difference of 26 percentage points), Prince Edward Island (a difference of 25 percentage points) and Nova Scotia (a difference of 22 percentage points). The attempts at

Figure 1:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



limiting consumption are most similar between men and women in western Canada: a difference of seven percentage points in Manitoba and Alberta, 11 percentage points in Saskatchewan and 13 percentage points in British Columbia.

Age



Current drinkers who were young adults at the time of the survey are more likely than older people to report having limited consumption ever in their lives (Figure 3 and Table 2). For example, 54% of current drinkers aged 20 to 24 years and 52% of those aged 25 to 34 years have limited consumption. By comparison, only 32% of people 65 years of age and over indicate a reduction at some point in their lives. These results may seem surprising, because older people have had more years in which to limit consumption, yet it is the younger people who have taken this action. However, it must be stressed that these findings are based only on current drinkers. As discussed in Chapter 1, older people are overrepresented in the "former drinker" category. Thus, older individuals are more likely than young people to have stopped drinking permanently at some time in the past.

The findings clearly indicate that, among current drinkers, younger people are more likely to have

recently stopped or reduced drinking (Figure 3 and Table 2). For example, people aged 15 to 19 (40%) and 20 to 24 (38%) are the most likely to have limited consumption during the year preceding the survey. The likelihood of alcohol reduction decreases steadily with age, with drinkers 65 years of age and older the least likely to have taken this action (11%). This finding suggests that older current drinkers may have established a firm pattern of alcohol consumption that they are unwilling, or perhaps unable, to break out of. Also, older drinkers consume significantly less alcohol per week than their younger counterparts and may thus have fewer reasons to limit their drinking.

Fewer people at every age report reducing consumption during the year preceding the survey compared to at some point in their lives. However, a difference of only seven percentage points for people aged 15 to 19 rises to 24 percentage points for people aged 25 to 34 and then evens out at this level (Table 2). This finding further illustrates that a significant proportion of the older current drinkers who report limiting consumption actually took this action at some time in their past.

Figure 2:
Percentage of current drinkers who ever quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

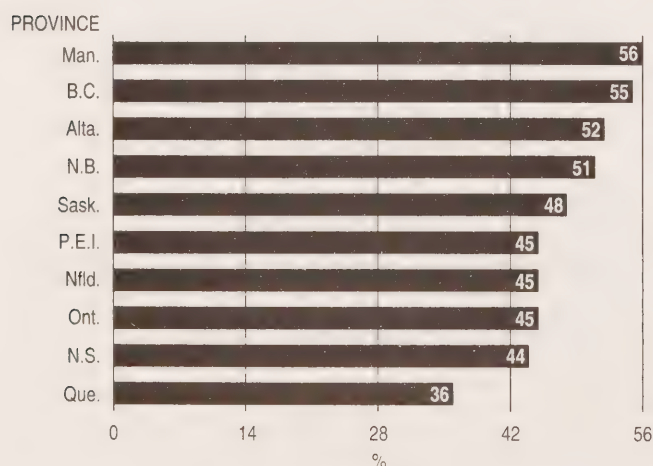
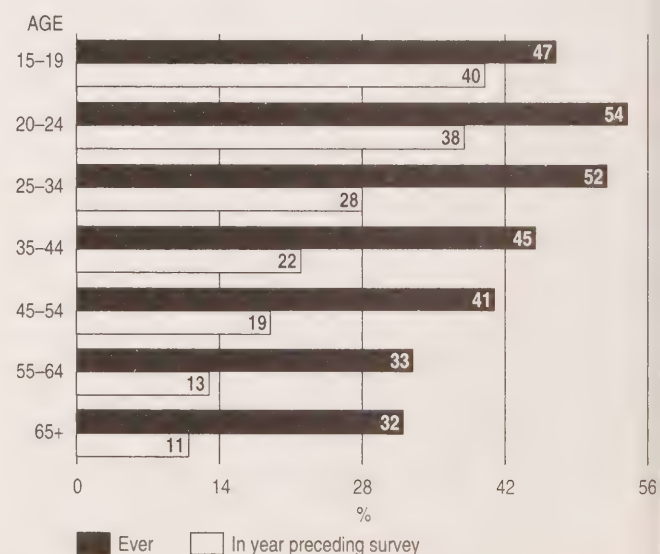


Figure 3:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



In each age group, more men than women limited consumption in the year preceding the survey. The tendency to limit consumption also declines with age for both men and women (Figure 4).

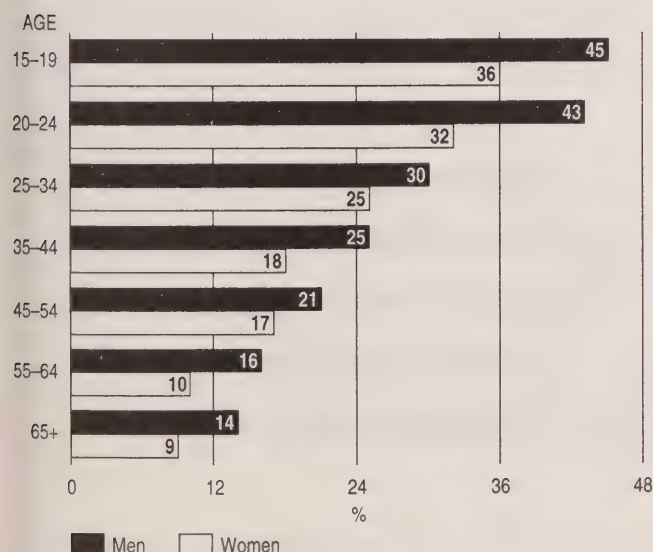
Education

Initial observations indicate that similar percentages of current drinkers from all educational levels have limited consumption at some time in their lives. There is a range of only four percentage points between people in the four educational categories, with nearly 45% of people at all levels indicating some form of limitation (Figure 5 and Table 3).

Data on the percentage of current drinkers who limited consumption during the year preceding the survey confirm that there is not a strong relationship between education and the tendency to quit or reduce consumption of alcohol (Figure 5 and Table 3).

More men than women have limited consumption at every educational level (Table 3). The difference in the percentages of men and women limiting consumption at each level of education decreases consistently

Figure 4:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



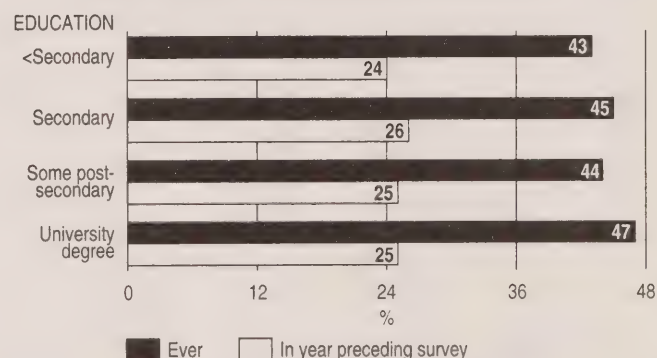
from lower to higher levels of education. Thus, almost the same percentage of university-educated men (49%) and women (44%) have limited consumption at some point in their lives.

Income

At first glance, it appears that current drinkers from different income levels are equally as likely to have limited consumption at some time in their lives (Table 4). There is only an eight percentage point difference between the five income brackets. However, a closer examination shows that the pattern is different for men and women (Figure 6). A higher percentage of men with household incomes of less than \$10,000 (61%) have taken this action compared to men with higher household incomes (50% to 52%). By contrast, the pattern for women is U-shaped. Women with household incomes of less than \$10,000 (42%) and women with incomes above \$60,000 (44%) are the most likely to have taken this action. The likelihood falls for women with a middle-range income between \$20,000 and \$39,000 (34%).

Data on the percentage of current drinkers who limited consumption during the year preceding the survey confirm that low-income men are more likely than other men to limit consumption (Table 4). The U-shaped pattern for women is shallower, suggesting that differences in income are less related to limiting consumption for women than for men.

Figure 5:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



More men than women in each income group indicate having limited their alcohol consumption (Table 4). The gap between men and women of the same age is wider for people with middle incomes. For example, the difference is 17 percentage points for those with an income between \$20,000 and \$39,999, whereas the difference is six percentage points for those in the highest income bracket.

Employment Status

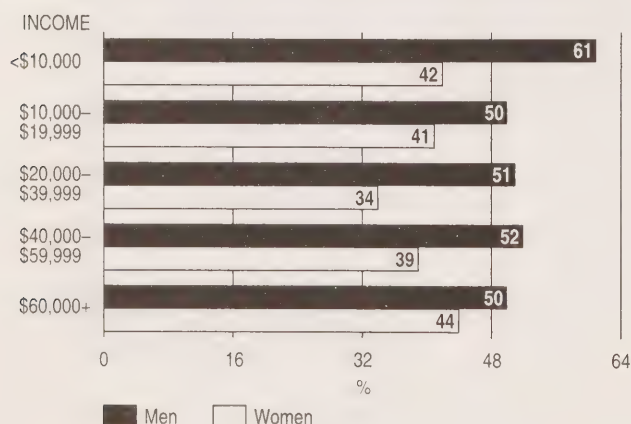


There is considerable variation in the likelihood of current drinkers having limited consumption by current employment status (Figure 7). The range is from 57% for people who are currently looking for work to 33% for people who are retired. The pattern is similar for men and women (Table 5).

Data on the percentage of current drinkers who limited consumption during the year preceding the survey show that students are more likely than people who are looking for work to have recently reduced consumption (Table 5). This finding is consistent with the fact that younger people are more likely to limit consumption than older people. A closer examination suggests that the likelihood of limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey is very similar for employed people and those who are looking for work (Figure 7).

Figure 6:

Percentage of current drinkers who ever quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



In all occupational categories, men are more likely to have limited consumption than women (Table 5). The gap between men and women is highest for people who are looking for work (22 percentage points), followed by retired persons (17 percentage points), blue-collar workers (16 percentage points), white-collar workers other than managers/professionals (14 percentage points), students (14 percentage points) and managers/professionals (six percentage points).

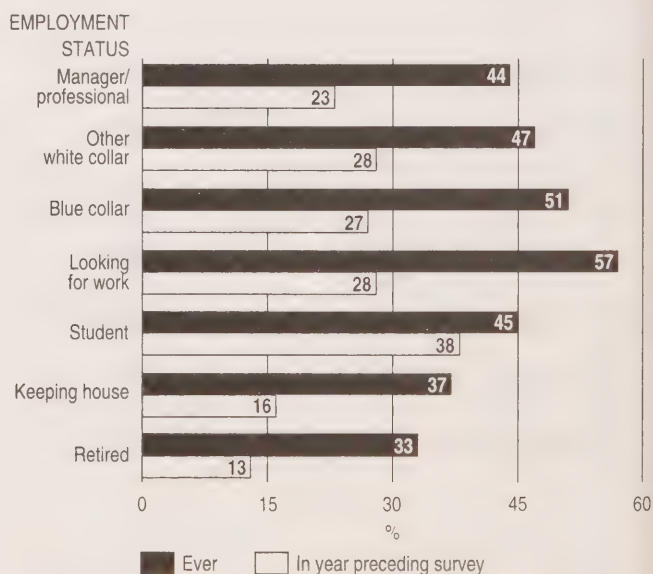
Marital Status



The percentage of current drinkers who have limited consumption ever in their lives also varies by current marital status (Figure 8 and Table 6). People who are single (never married) (52%) and those who are separated (52%) are most likely to have limited consumption, followed by those who are divorced (49%), married (42%) and widowed (27%). The pattern is similar for those who limited their consumption in the year preceding the survey: single (35%), separated (25%), divorced (21%), married (20%) and widowed (10%).

Figure 7:

Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



The rank order from most to least likely to limit consumption varies slightly for men and women (Table 6). The data show that 64% of the men who are separated and 59% of single men have limited consumption, compared to only 36% of widowed men. By contrast, 45% of divorced women and 44% of single women limited consumption, compared to only 25% of widowed women.

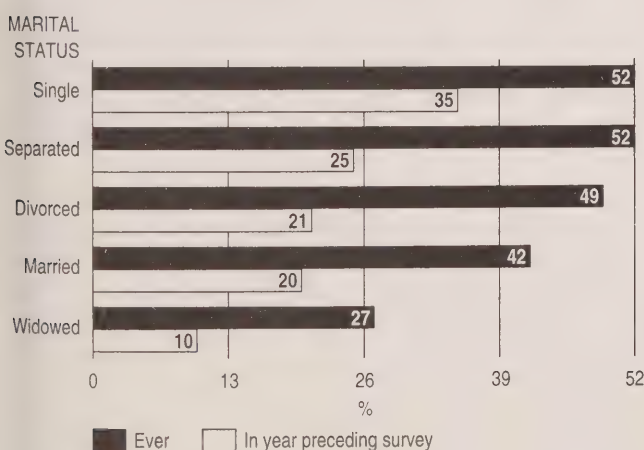
More men than women in each marital status category have limited consumption at some time in their lives. The largest gap is a 15 percentage point difference between men and women who have never married. Although more men than women in each marital status category also limited consumption during the year preceding the survey, the differences are smaller. For example, divorced men (21%) are virtually equal to divorced women (20%) in reporting reduced consumption in the year preceding the survey. The largest gap is a nine percentage point difference between men and women who have never married (Table 6).

Language



English-speaking current drinkers are more likely than the members of other language groups to report limiting their alcohol consumption. Forty-nine percent of Anglophones have either stopped or reduced

Figure 8:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

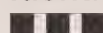


their drinking at some point in their lives, compared to 36% of Francophones and 28% of members of other language groups. Data on the percentage of current drinkers who limited consumption in the year preceding the survey also show that Anglophones are the most likely to have limited consumption (Figure 9 and Table 7).

This pattern remains consistent for men and women (Table 7). Fifty-five percent of Anglophone men have limited consumption in their lifetime, compared to 44% of Francophone men and 30% of men in other language categories. Similarly, 42% of Anglophone women have limited consumption, compared to 27% of Francophone women and 23% of women in other language groups (Table 7).

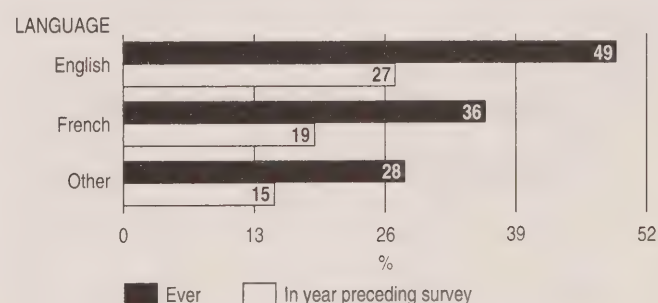
More men than women in each language group have limited their drinking (Table 7). The gap is highest among Francophones (17 percentage points) and Anglophones (13 percentage points), compared to people speaking other languages (seven percentage points).

Identification of a Harmful Effect



Approximately one out of every five current drinkers (21%) report that they have experienced one or more alcohol-related problems in their lifetime. These problems include harmful effects on friendships, physical health, happiness, home life, work or studies and financial position. Men (25%) are more likely than

Figure 9:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989



women (15%) to identify a harmful effect resulting from alcohol consumption (see Chapter 5 for a detailed analysis of the socio-economic characteristics of people who experienced a harmful effect as a result of their own alcohol consumption).

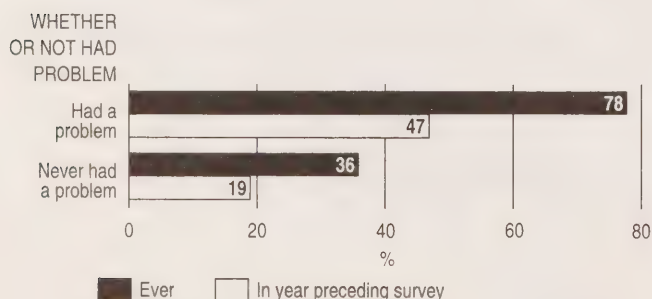
People who report experiencing an alcohol-related problem at some time in their lives are more likely to have stopped or reduced their drinking than those who have not (Figure 10 and Table 8). Approximately 78% of current drinkers who report experiencing an alcohol-related problem also report limiting their consumption, compared to only 36% of those who have not experienced a problem — a difference of 42 percentage points. Although drinkers reporting problems are more likely to alter their drinking habits, the findings clearly demonstrate that people also limit their drinking for reasons other than personally experiencing harmful effects from alcohol consumption.

Data on the percentage of current drinkers who limited consumption during the year preceding the survey reveal a strong relationship between experiencing a recent negative effect from alcohol consumption and recent actions taken to limit consumption (Table 8). Fifty-seven percent of people who experienced a negative effect from alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey also limited consumption during the year preceding the survey. By contrast, only 19% of current drinkers who had not experienced a harmful effect from alcohol consumption in the 12 months preceding the survey limited

consumption during the year preceding the survey. The pattern is similar for men and women.

The findings presented in previous sections of this chapter, which examine the relationship between limiting consumption and demographic characteristics, consistently reveal that more men than women limit consumption. The data concerned with alcohol-related problems suggest that men are limiting consumption more than women because they are suffering more harmful effects from their alcohol consumption. Indeed, when controlling for alcohol-related problems, differences between men and women are relatively small (Table 8).

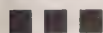
Figure 10:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption, by whether or not they had ever experienced an alcohol-related problem, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Part Two:

Reasons for Quitting or Reducing Consumption of Alcohol

Definitions



Former drinkers and current drinkers who indicated that they had stopped or reduced their drinking at some point in their lives were asked about the relevance of ten common reasons for reducing or quitting drinking (Q44 in Appendix B): a) for reasons such as pregnancy, dieting, athletic training, etc.; b) because you were getting older; c) you thought you were drinking too much or had a drinking problem; d) it was affecting your work, studies or employment opportunities; e) it was interfering with your family or home life; f) it was affecting your physical health; g) it was affecting your friendships or social life; h) it was affecting your financial position; i) it was affecting your outlook on life, happiness; and j) because of influence from your family or friends.

Clarity as to the meaning of these percentage entries is important. A non-endorsement might mean that a person chose not to limit consumption for that reason even though the situation was personally relevant. Furthermore, an endorsement of a reason, say, by 50% of the population does not necessarily imply that the remaining 50% did not respond to this factor in their lives — many of them may have seen it as having “no bearing” or “never experienced.” Thus, for example, bad effect on family would not be a relevant category for people without family ties.

People may have quit or reduced their drinking many times in the past, each time for a different reason. Others may have limited consumption only once, but decided to take this action for several reasons. This chapter does not make these kinds of distinctions.

The analysis in this section is based primarily on reasons that people gave for quitting or reducing consumption of alcohol ever in their lives. Obviously, the personal characteristics of individual respondents at the time of the survey may not be the same as the characteristics of the person at the time of the reduction attempt. Thus, to guard against misinterpretation, reasons given by people who limited consumption ever in their lives are compared to reasons

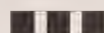
given by people who limited consumption in the year preceding the survey.

General Findings



In general, the most frequently cited reasons for ever stopping or reducing alcohol consumption revolve around the well-being of the person or, in the case of women, the well-being of the unborn child (Table 9). In rank order, the three reasons provided by at least one-quarter of all Canadians are: pregnancy/diet/athletics (31%); bad effect on physical health (30%); and had a drinking problem (26%). Other motivations are less common, all falling below the 20% level. These reasons include: getting older (18%); bad effect on financial position (16%); bad effect on happiness or outlook (15%); bad effect on family or home life (14%); the influence of family or friends (11%); bad effect on friends or social life (10%); and bad effect on work or studies (9%). A comparison of reasons for limiting consumption ever in one's life against reasons given for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey reveals much the same pattern (Figure 11).

Sex



In nine out of ten cases, a higher percentage of men than women report particular reasons for stopping or reducing consumption (Figure 12). The only exception is pregnancy, diet or athletic training. Women (45%) are more than twice as likely as men (22%) to cite this particular motivation for limiting consumption. Other common reasons among women include: bad effect on physical health (25%), felt they had a drinking problem (19%) and because they were getting older (14%). One-third of the men cut consumption because of bad effects on physical health (33%) and because they felt they had a drinking problem (31%). Close to one-fifth gave reasons such as diet/athletic training (22%), getting older (21%) and bad effect on financial position (19%).

Age



There is little variation by age in the overall importance of reasons for limiting consumption, other than for pregnancy/diet/athletics, getting older and effects on physical health. In general, younger people are more likely to report pregnancy/diet/athletics, whereas older people are more likely to report getting older and effects on physical health (Table 9).

People aged 15 to 34 are most likely to have limited consumption because of pregnancy/diet/athletics (38%), effects on physical health (27%), drinking problems (25%) and financial position (18%). The order for middle-aged people between 35 and 54 shifted: effects on physical health (32%), drinking problem (30%), pregnancy/diet/athletics (29%) and getting older (21%). For people 55 years of age and over, effects on physical health (34%) and getting older (25%) are

the most important reasons, with drinking problem (22%) and pregnancy/diet/athletics (14%) shifting downward in the rank order. It is important to remember that the age reported in the tables is not necessarily the age at which people limited consumption. A check against reasons given by people for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey, however, shows much the same pattern (Table 10).

Younger women are more likely than older women to reduce consumption for reasons of pregnancy, diet or athletics. Fifty-four percent of women 15 to 34 years of age limited consumption in the year preceding the survey for this reason, compared to 43% of women between 35 and 54 years of age and 42% of women 55 years of age and over (Table 10).

The most common reasons cited by younger men for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption are

Figure 11:
Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, age 15+, Canada, 1989

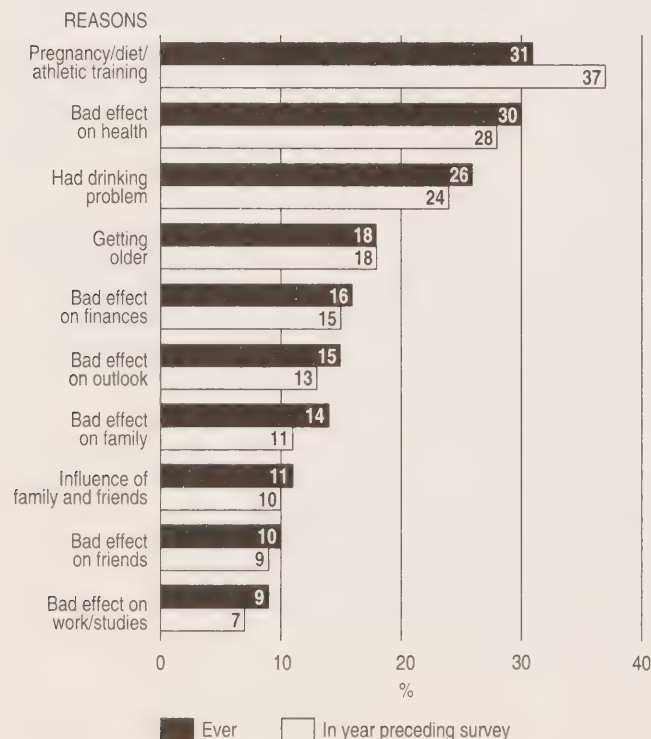
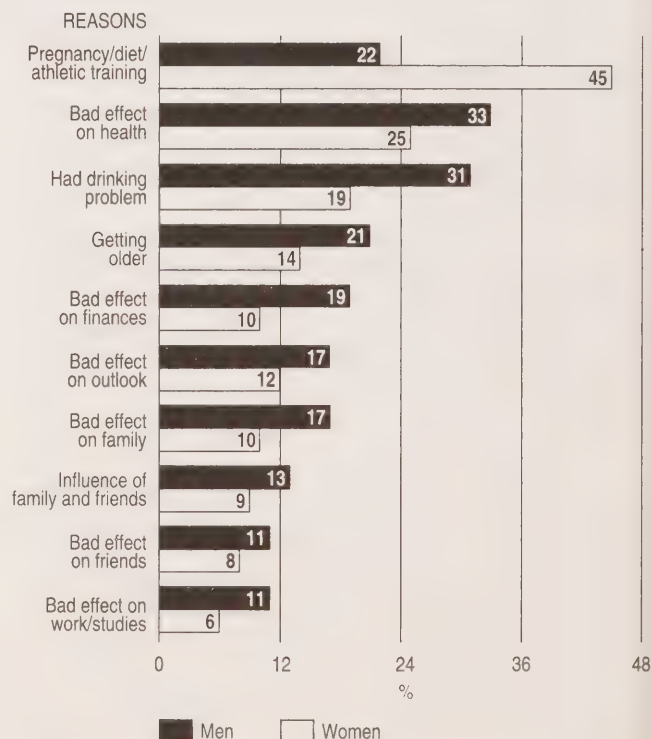


Figure 12:
Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



bad effect on physical health (31%), drinking problems (30%) and diet/athletics (26%). These reasons remain important for middle-aged men (35 to 54 years), but getting older (23%) moves into third place. Older men (55 years and over) are the most likely to have reduced drinking for reasons associated with effects on physical health (39%) and old age (30%). Diet/athletics is of lower importance for this group (10%).

In every age category, a higher percentage of men than women report each reason, other than pregnancy, for limiting consumption (Tables 9 and 10). The difference in the percentage of men and women choosing each reason does not vary sharply across age categories. The only reasons with significant variation between men and women across age categories are pregnancy/diet/athletics, effects on physical health and getting older (Table 9). Thus, for example, there is a larger difference between the proportion of young men and young women who report pregnancy/diet/athletics than there is among older men and women (Figure 13).

Education



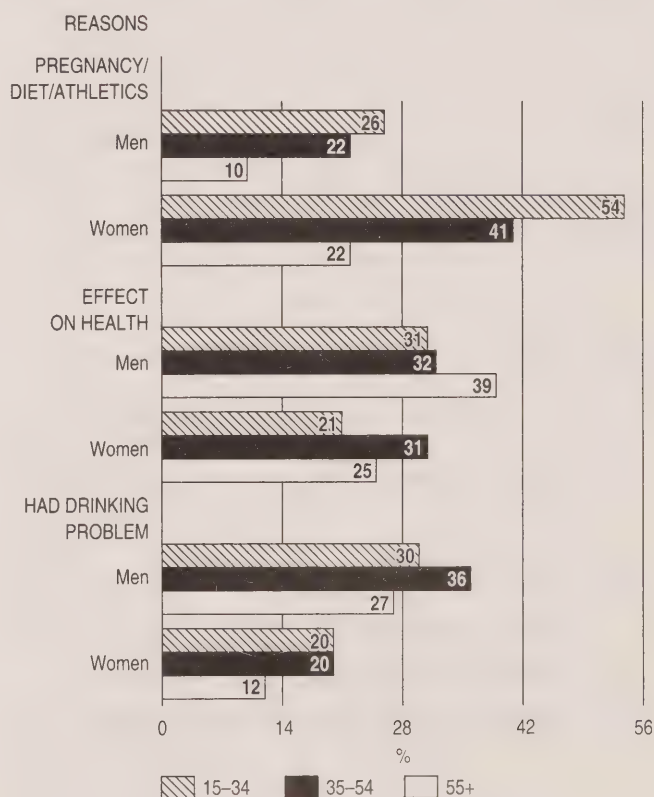
There are striking similarities in the overall importance of reasons given for ever limiting consumption by people according to their current level of education (Table 11). Only three reasons vary in overall importance. People with a university degree are most likely to report pregnancy/diet/athletics — a difference of 18 percentage points compared to those with less than a secondary school education. People with less than a secondary school education, however, are more likely than people with a university degree to report effects on family/home life and effects on financial position — a difference of 13 and nine percentage points, respectively.

A direct correspondence between level of education and reasons for reduction cannot be assumed, because education can continue to be acquired over the course of one's life, so the level of education held by people at the time they reduced drinking may not correspond to the level at the time of the survey. To clarify the relationship between education and reasons for reduction, reasons for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey were compared with reasons given by people for ever limiting con-

sumption (Table 12). There are not any differences greater than ten percentage points when comparing the same educational levels for these two time periods. A pattern emerges, however, for higher percentages of people at all levels of education to have limited consumption during the year preceding the survey for reasons related to pregnancy/diet/athletics compared to people who have ever limited consumption. This suggests that people of all education levels are more concerned currently about the relationship between alcohol and pregnancy, diet and fitness than in the past.

At each level of education, the relative importance of reasons for limiting consumption is different for men and women. For men, the two most common reasons remain the same at every level of education: bad effects on health and recognition of a drinking problem

Figure 13:
Percentage of former and current drinkers who ever quit or reduced their alcohol consumption for selected reasons, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



(Table 11). For men with less than a secondary school education, three reasons are a close third choice: bad effect on financial position (23%), bad effect on family life (22%) and getting older (21%). The next most important reasons for men with a secondary school diploma and men with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree are diet/athletic training (26% and 25%, respectively), getting older (21% and 20%, respectively) and bad effect on financial position (20% and 19%, respectively). The order is the same for men with a university degree, although the percentage choosing each category changes: diet/athletic training (27%), getting older (24%) and bad effect on financial position (13%).

Reasons for ever limiting consumption vary for men and women with the same level of education, because women are much more likely to report pregnancy, diet and athletics. The rank order of the three most common reasons stays the same for women in all four categories of education: pregnancy/diet/athletics, drinking problem and effects on physical health. The percentage choosing some categories, however, fluctuates at each level. Women with less than a secondary school education are much less likely to give pregnancy/diet/athletics as a reason — only 31% compared to 49% for both women with a secondary school diploma and women with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree, and 57% for women with a university degree (Figure 14 and Table 11). This indicates a positive relationship between education and reduction for this reason. There is very little difference (four percentage points) by education for women with the second choice, with close to one-

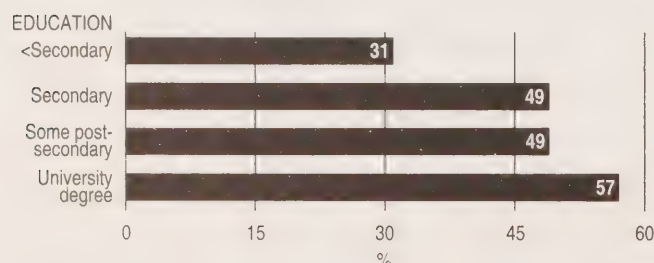
quarter selecting bad effect on health. The third most common choice again varies by educational level. Twenty-six percent of women with the least education report a drinking problem as a reason, compared with 15% to 18% of women in the next three categories of education.

Social relationships decline in importance as reasons given by both men and women for having limited consumption at some point in the past as their current level of education increases. Twenty-one percent of people with the least education reduced consumption because of a bad effect on family, 14% because of a bad effect on friends and 14% because of the influence of family and friends. These factors reduce to 8%, 7% and 7%, respectively, for people with the most education.

Other than pregnancy/diet/athletics, more men than women within every educational category but one choose every reason for reduction of consumption. The relative difference in the percentage of men and women choosing each reason does not vary sharply across educational categories.

The only reasons that differ between men and women across categories are pregnancy/diet/athletics, drinking problem and effects on physical health. For pregnancy/diet/athletics, the difference between male and female drinkers with less education is 17 percentage points (more women); the difference in the highest bracket is 31 percentage points (more women). For reasons related to drinking problems, the difference between men and women with less than a secondary school education is five percentage points (more men), compared to a difference of 19 percentage points (more men) for people with a secondary school diploma. For effects on physical health, the difference between men and women with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree is only one percentage point (more men), compared to a difference of 13 percentage points (more men) for people with a university degree.

Figure 14:
Percentage of former and current drinkers who ever quit or reduced their alcohol consumption for reasons of pregnancy, diet or athletic training, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Income

The importance of some reasons for limiting consumption varies across current income levels (Table 13). In general, people with the highest household income (44%) are more likely to have limited consumption because of pregnancy/diet/athletics than people with

the lowest household income (23%). People with the lowest income, however, are more likely than people with higher incomes to give reasons such as bad effect on financial position (a difference of 13 percentage points), bad effect on family/home life (a difference of 11 percentage points) and bad effect on work/studies (a difference of nine percentage points). People in the lower income groups are also more likely to cite negative effects on work or studies as a motivation for reducing consumption (Figure 15). These differences apply to both men and women.

A direct correspondence between income and reasons for reduction cannot be assumed, because income can vary over a lifetime, so income of people at the time they reduced drinking may not correspond to the level at the time of the survey. Furthermore, it is possible that failure to limit drinking in the past may lead to lower current income levels.

To clarify the relationship between income and reasons for reduction, reasons for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey were compared with reasons given by people for ever limiting consumption (Tables 13 and 14). There are no differences larger than ten percentage points. However, it is interesting to note that, for each income category, a higher percentage of current drinkers who limited consumption in the year preceding the survey did so

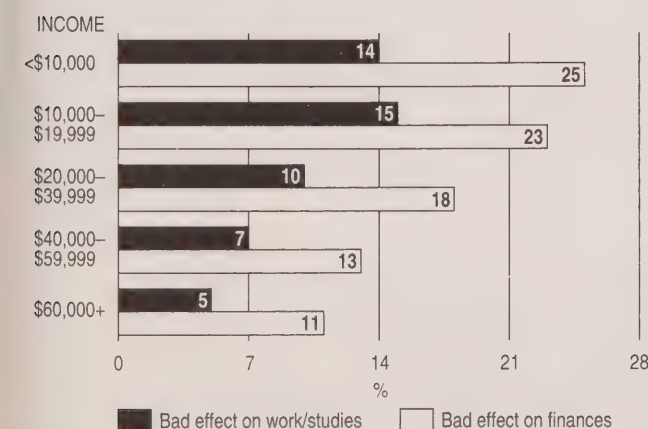
for reasons of pregnancy, diet or athletics. This suggests that people of all income levels are more concerned about the relationship between alcohol and pregnancy, diet or fitness than in the past.

The relative importance of reasons for limiting consumption at some point in their lives reported by people within each income bracket differs from the importance assigned these reasons by men and by women (Table 13). For men of almost all income brackets, bad effect on physical health continues to be the primary reason for having limited alcohol consumption. The exception is men earning between \$40,000 and \$59,999, who rank it second. Men in the highest income bracket also limited consumption principally for reasons related to diet/athletics (33%), drinking problems (29%) and concerns about getting older (23%). By contrast, men in the lowest income brackets are next most likely to limit consumption for reasons related to drinking problems (29%), bad effects on financial position (27%) and bad effects on family (22%).

Reasons for ever limiting consumption vary for men and women with the same income, because women are much more likely to report pregnancy, diet and athletics. Women in the highest three income brackets assign the same relative importance to the three main reasons: pregnancy/diet/athletics, effects on physical health and drinking problem (Table 13). Women in the second lowest bracket place effects on physical health ahead of pregnancy/diet/athletics, whereas women in the lowest income bracket report pregnancy/diet/athletics in first place but then are more likely to rank drinking problems and bad effects on financial position. The percentage of women choosing some reasons varies widely for each income category. For example, the percentage of women choosing pregnancy/diet/athletics increases from 30% of women in the lowest bracket to 64% of women in the highest bracket (Figure 16). By contrast, the proportion of women choosing drinking problem and bad effect on financial position decreases with income (26% to 13% for drinking problem and 22% to 5% for financial position) (Table 13).

There is almost a consistent decrease in the importance of bad effects on family and friends as a reason for reduction as income increases. Nineteen percent of people in the lowest income group give effects on family as a reason, compared to 8% of

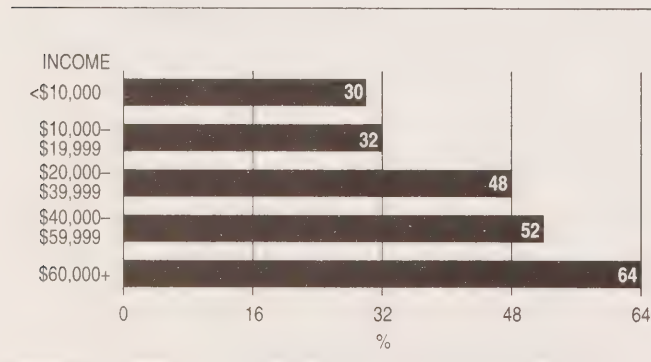
Figure 15:
Percentage of former and current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption because of bad effects on work or finances, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



people in the highest income group. Thirteen percent of people in the lowest income bracket give bad effect on friends as a reason, compared to 6% of men in the highest income bracket. There is little difference between the lowest and highest income brackets in choosing the influence of family/friends as a reason for alcohol reduction.

Other than pregnancy/diet/athletics and a few other minor exceptions, a higher percentage of men at every income level tend to give all reasons for having reduced consumption. Comparing across income brackets, there is very little variation in the percentage of men and women citing most of the reasons. Thus, for example, the difference between men and women reporting bad effects on financial position is only nine percentage points (more men) in the highest bracket and six percentage points (more men) in the lowest bracket. The most variation by sex across income brackets is for health-related reasons. Women in the lowest income bracket are less likely than men (a difference of 27 percentage points) to give health reasons, compared to a much smaller difference between the sexes in all the other income brackets. Similarly, for the reason pregnancy/diet/athletics, the difference between men and women in the three highest brackets is about 30 percentage points (more women), compared to only 14 percentage points (more women) in the lowest bracket.

Figure 16:
Percentage of female former and current drinkers who ever quit or reduced their alcohol consumption for reasons of pregnancy, diet or athletic training, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Employment Status

The importance of reasons for limiting drinking at some point in the past varies by current occupation (Table 15). People in managerial/professional and other white-collar jobs give almost identical reasons for having reduced alcohol consumption: pregnancy/diet/athletics, effects on physical health, drinking problem and getting older. People in blue-collar jobs are more apt to have reduced their intake because of drinking problems and less likely for reasons related to pregnancy/diet/athletics. People who are not currently employed give a variety of reasons for having reduced consumption, depending on their status. People who are looking for work reduced consumption because of drinking problems, effects on physical health, effects on happiness and effects on family. Retired people are more likely to report effects on physical health, getting older and drinking problem. Homemakers give very few reasons other than pregnancy/diet/athletics and health problems. These are also the two most common reasons given by students.

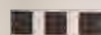
We caution here again that the respondent's occupation may have changed since the reduction of alcohol consumption took place. It is quite possible that people who have not reduced alcohol consumption may now be less apt to be employed. To clarify the relationship between employment status and reasons for reduction, reasons for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey were compared with reasons given by people for ever limiting consumption (Tables 15 and 16). The largest difference is for retired people, who are more likely to report getting older as a reason if they had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey than if they had ever limited consumption — a difference of 12 percentage points. There is also a tendency for employed people who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey, compared to those who have ever limited consumption, to have limited consumption for reasons related to pregnancy, diet or athletics.

The relative importance of reasons for limiting consumption at some point in their lives, reported by people in different employment status categories, is different for men and women. There are important differences for men depending on their current occupation (Table 15). Men in managerial/professional jobs are most likely to have reduced their consumption for

reasons related to effects on physical health (33%), diet/athletic training (30%), drinking problem (30%) and getting older (24%). Men in other white-collar jobs are most likely to have reduced their alcohol consumption for reasons related to drinking problems (31%), bad effect on physical health (34%), bad effect on happiness (20%), diet/athletic training (26%), getting older (23%) and bad effect on financial situation (19%). Men in blue-collar jobs are most likely to have limited their intake because of drinking problems (37%), effects on physical health (32%), financial situation (25%), effects on family and home life (21%) and getting older (21%). Men who are looking for work limited consumption because of drinking problems (43%), bad effect on physical health (35%), financial situation (30%) and effects on family (30%). For retired men, effects on physical health (43%), drinking problems (31%) and getting older (36%) are important, whereas diet/athletics (37%), financial situation (24%), drinking problem (21%) and health problems (25%) are the main reasons for male students.

Reasons for ever limiting consumption vary for men and women with the same employment status because women are much more likely to report pregnancy, diet and athletics. As well, the relative importance of reasons for having ever reduced consumption of alcohol also varies for women according to their current occupation (Table 15). As usual, pregnancy/diet/athletics is the most common reason, except for women who are looking for work and retired women. Women in managerial/professional jobs and blue-collar jobs are next most likely to have reduced for reasons related to effects on physical health and drinking problems. Women in other white-collar jobs are next most likely to report drinking problems and effects on physical health. Homemakers give very few reasons other than pregnancy/diet/athletics (59%) and health problems (22%). There are not enough women in the other categories to make the numbers meaningful.

Marital Status



The overall importance of most of the reasons for limiting consumption, other than getting older, effects on friends and influence of family or friends, varies by current marital status (Table 17). In general, married people (34%) are more likely than widowed people (percentage suppressed) to have limited consumption

because of pregnancy, diet and athletics. Having a drinking problem is chosen by 41% of separated people and only 18% of widowed people. Separated people (19%) are more likely than widowed people (percentage suppressed) to report bad effect on work/studies. Bad effect on family is reported by 24% of separated people and 12% of single (never married) people. Bad effect on physical health is chosen by 39% of separated people and only 28% of divorced people. Divorced and separated people (22%) are more likely than married people (12%) to report bad effect on financial position. Bad effect on happiness is chosen by 25% of separated people and only 13% of married people.

Marital status is also subject to change, and it cannot, therefore, be assumed that the respondent's marital status at the time of the interview is the same as when the reduction in alcohol consumption took place. To clarify the relationship between marital status and reasons for reduction, reasons for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey (Table 18) were compared with reasons given by people for ever limiting consumption (Table 17). As expected, there is very little difference for people who had never been married, because their marital status had not changed. The only difference of note for married people is that those who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are more likely to have reported pregnancy/diet/athletics than those who had ever limited consumption — a difference of nine percentage points. Divorced people who had limited consumption in the year preceding the survey are also more likely to report pregnancy/diet/athletics and getting older than those who had ever limited consumption. Widowed people who had limited consumption in the year preceding the survey are more likely to report getting older and less likely to report bad effects on family and happiness than those who had ever limited consumption. The most variation between people who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey and those who had ever limited consumption is for separated people. Separated people who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are more likely to report reasons such as pregnancy/diet/athletic training and getting older. They are less likely to report all other reasons.

The relative importance of reasons for limiting consumption at some point in their lives, reported by

people in different marital status categories, is different for men and women. For people of almost every current marital status, there is considerable variation in the percentage of men and women citing most reasons for ever limiting consumption (Table 17). For some categories, the greatest and least differences between men and women are for widowed and divorced people, respectively. Thus, for example, the difference between men and women reporting bad effect on physical health varies from 23 percentage points (more men) for widowed people to almost equal proportions for divorced people. This trend is the same for effects on family and effects on happiness.

For two other categories, the greatest and least differences between men and women are for married and widowed people, respectively. Thus, for example, the difference between men and women reporting pregnancy/diet/athletics varies from four percentage points (more women) for widowed people to 36 percentage points (more women) for married people. Married men are more likely than married women to give the influence of family and friends (a difference of nine percentage points), whereas widowed men are less likely than widowed women to cite this reason (a difference of five percentage points). For two reasons, drinking problem and financial position, the difference between separated men and women is minuscule; married men, on the other hand, are more likely than married women to cite drinking problems (a difference of 18 percentage points), and widowed men are more likely than widowed women to cite financial position (a difference of 17 percentage points).

The rank order of reasons for limiting alcohol consumption varies by gender across marital status categories. Women in all marital status categories do not share the most common reason for having limited consumption. Single women report pregnancy/diet/athletics (37%) and having a drinking problem (24%). Married women report the two most common reasons for women in general: pregnancy/diet/athletics (56%) and effects on physical health (23%). Separated women report drinking problems (42%) and effects on physical health (36%). Similarly, divorced women report drinking problems (31%) and effects on physical health (29%). Widowed women report effects on physical health (26%) and getting older (percentage suppressed). Pregnancy/diet/athletics is higher for married and never-married women, whereas recognition of a drinking problem is higher for separated and

divorced women. Women who are separated or divorced are more likely than married women to give money-related reasons, such as effects on work/studies and financial position, as a reason.

For men, the top two reasons given for alcohol reduction at some point in the past, regardless of their current marital status, are as expected: effects on physical health and drinking problem, in that order, except for divorced men, who reverse the order of importance. The importance of these reasons for having limited consumption varies for men depending upon their marital status. The importance of effects on physical health varies from a low of about 30% for single, married and divorced men to a high of 50% for widowed men. The importance of having a drinking problem varies from a low of about 30% for never married, married and widowed men to a high of 45% for divorced men. The third reason varies sharply for each group: 26% of never-married men report diet/athletics, 25% of married men report getting older, 27% of separated men report effects on family, 26% of divorced men report effects on financial position and widowed men report effects on family (percentage suppressed).

There are some interesting variations in the relative importance of effects on family for people depending on their current marital status. Bad effect on family is least important for single men (12%), widowed women (percentage suppressed), married women (9%) and single women (11%). It becomes more important for married men (18%) and divorced men (19%), separated women (percentage suppressed) and divorced women (21%). Effect on family is most important for separated men (27%) and widowed men (percentage suppressed). Separated men (18%) are also slightly more likely to give effects on friends as a reason than are single men (12%), married men (11%), divorced men (13%) or widowed men (percentage suppressed). Divorced women (14%) are also slightly more likely to give effects on friends as a reason than are single women (13%) and married women (5%).

Language



The overall importance of most reasons for limiting consumption does not vary by language spoken, except for pregnancy/diet/athletics, getting older

and effects on physical health (Table 19). In general, Anglophones (34%) are more likely to limit consumption because of pregnancy, diet and athletics than are Francophones (22%) and members of other language groups (19%). Getting older is chosen by only 13% of Francophones compared to 20% of Anglophones and 23% of people who speak other languages. Bad effect on physical health is chosen by only 27% of Anglophones compared to 39% of Francophones and 47% of people who speak other languages.

For people of every language group, there are differences in the percentage of men and women citing most reasons for ever limiting consumption. Anglophone men limited consumption because of drinking problems (31%), effects on physical health (30%), diet/athletics (24%) and getting older (23%) (Table 19). Francophone men limited consumption because of effects on physical health (41%), drinking problems (34%), effects on financial position (24%) and effects on family (22%). Men of other language groups are more likely than other Canadians to have limited consumption because of effects on physical health (54%). They also reduced consumption because of getting older (27%), drinking problems (27%) and diet/athletic training (17%).

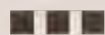
Although Anglophone and Francophone women tend to place reasons in the same rank order (pregnancy/diet/athletics, effects on physical health and drinking problems), the percentage of each language group that chooses each reason varies considerably (Table 19). Forty-eight percent of Anglophone women report pregnancy/diet/athletics, compared to 36% of Francophone women. Twenty-three percent of Anglophone women report effects on physical health, compared to 35% of Francophone women. Twenty percent of Anglophone women report drinking problems, compared to 17% of Francophone women. The two most common reasons given by women speaking other languages are effects on physical health and pregnancy/diet/athletics.

Social relations are not an important consideration for people of any language group in their decision to reduce consumption, except for Francophone men, 22% of whom reduced consumption because of bad effects on their families. Twenty percent of men who speak other languages reduced consumption because of the influence of family or friends.

Other than pregnancy/diet/athletics, a higher percentage of men than women in the three language categories report every reason to reduce consumption. The widest spreads between men and women are for reasons such as pregnancy/diet/athletics (a difference of 25 percentage points for Anglophone men and women and 20 percentage points for Francophone men and women), drinking problem (a difference of 11 percentage points for Anglophone men and women and 17 percentage points for Francophone men and women), effect on family/home life (a difference of 12 percentage points for Francophone men and women) and financial position (a difference of 14 percentage points for Francophone men and women).

The relative difference in the percentage of men and women choosing each reason does not vary sharply across language categories. The only reasons with more than a ten percentage point variation between men and women across categories are pregnancy/diet/athletics, effects on physical health and getting older. For example, for Anglophones, there is a 25 percentage point difference in favour of women over men reporting pregnancy/diet/athletics; the difference between men and women in language groups other than English or French is only nine percentage points. The pattern is opposite for reasons such as getting older and effects on physical health. The differences are larger between men and women in language groups other than English and French and less between both Anglophone and Francophone men and women.

Identification of a Harmful Effect



This section examines the relationship between experiencing a harmful effect from alcohol use and the type of reasons current drinkers give for limiting consumption. It differs from the previous discussion in that former drinkers are not included in this analysis. People identified harmful effects from alcohol consumption on their friendships, physical health, happiness, home life, work or studies and financial position (Q36 in Appendix B).

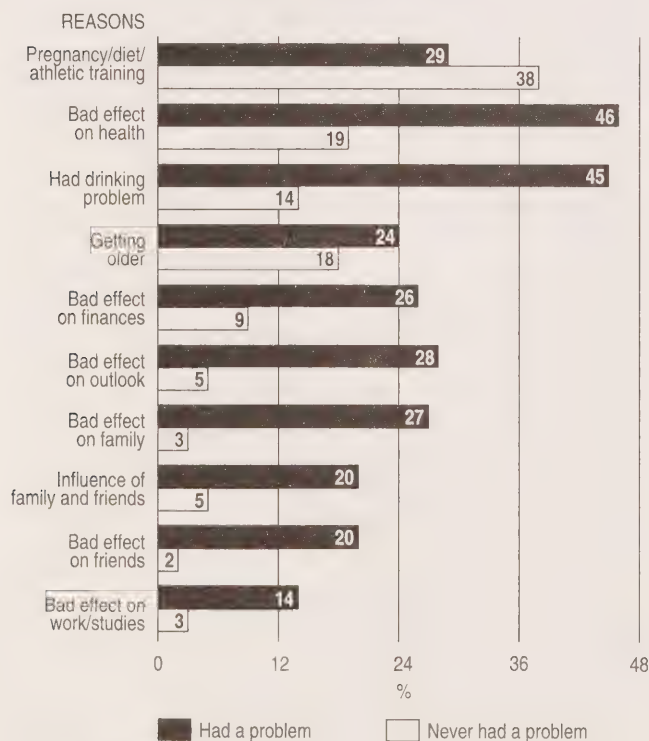
In general, people who recognized that their alcohol consumption had caused a harmful effect at any point in their lives are much more likely than others to cite every reason for limiting consumption except for pregnancy/diet/athletics (Figure 17).

The rank order of reasons is also different for these two groups of people. People who had never experienced a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption report pregnancy/diet/athletics (38%), effects on physical health (19%), getting older (18%) and drinking problems (14%). The pattern is similar for men and women. People who had experienced a harmful effect are more likely to report effects on physical health (46%), drinking problems (45%), pregnancy/diet/athletics (29%), bad effect on happiness (28%) and bad effect on family/home life (27%). The pattern is different for men and women because women who experienced a harmful effect are more likely to report pregnancy/diet/athletics, and their male counterparts are more likely to report drinking problems (Table 20).

Reasons related to social relations are much more important to people who identify themselves as having experienced a harmful effect from alcohol use:

bad effect on family (27%), bad effect on friends (20%) and the influence of family or friends (20%). None of these reasons garnered a response of more than 6% from people who had not experienced a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption.

Figure 17:
Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by experience with alcohol-related problems, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Part Three: Strategies Used to Quit or Reduce Consumption of Alcohol

Definitions

Both former drinkers and current drinkers who indicated that they had limited their drinking were asked whether or not they had ever used one or more strategies designed to reduce consumption (Q45 in Appendix B). These strategies or actions include a) skipping parties or other social events; b) avoiding contact with friends who drink a lot; c) going to bars and taverns less often; d) limiting the number of drinks consumed per occasion; e) changing the type of beverage usually consumed; and f) getting involved in activities that do not involve drinking.

It is important to be clear as to the precise meaning of these percentage entries. The data show the percentage of respondents who had used each particular strategy to limit or reduce consumption. An endorsement has a definite implication of positiveness rather than implying that the respondent overlooked this option or that the strategy was unhelpful. A non-endorsement may mean that this strategy was not relevant; individuals who do not attend parties cannot further limit the number of parties attended. These strategies are things done to quit or reduce consumption by both former drinkers and current drinkers. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that the strategies reported here had any lasting success. This analysis also does not differentiate strategies used to limit consumption by light, moderate and heavy drinkers. Finally, people may have quit or reduced their alcohol consumption many times. It is possible that one person used a different strategy for each of five reduction attempts, whereas another person used five strategies for only one reduction attempt.

General Findings

In general, limiting the number of drinks consumed per occasion is the most common reduction strategy (66%), followed by changing beverage type (39%), limiting visits to bars/taverns (35%), engaging in activities that do not involve drinking (27%), avoiding friends who drink (22%) and skipping parties or other social events (20%) (Figure 18 and Table 21). A check

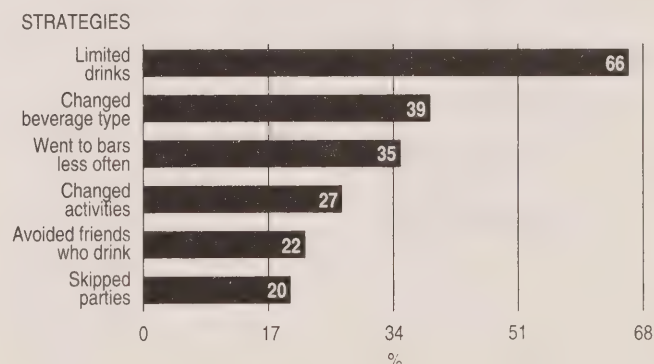
against strategies given by people for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey reveals much the same pattern.

Sex

Differences exist between men and women in terms of the overall use of the various reduction strategies (Figure 19). In general, a higher percentage of men than women report using each type of strategy. The only exception is that women (44%) are more likely than men (36%) to report changing beverage type. Limiting the number of drinks per occasion is the most common strategy used by men (70%), followed by going to bars less often (42%), changing beverage type (36%), becoming involved in activities that do not involve drinking (28%), avoiding friends who drink heavily (26%) and skipping parties or other social events (23%). Limiting drinks (61%) is also the most common strategy among women, followed by changing beverage type (44%), going less frequently to bars (26%), getting involved in activities that do not include drinking (25%), avoiding friends who drink (17%) and skipping parties (15%).

As reported earlier in this chapter, more men than women experienced harmful effects from their alcohol consumption, and more men than women have limited their alcohol consumption. Therefore, as more

Figure 18:
Strategies used to quit or reduce alcohol consumption, age 15+, Canada, 1989



men have limited consumption, it is not surprising to find that men report more use of strategies than women.

Age



Regardless of age, the most common strategy for stopping or reducing alcohol consumption is limiting the number of drinks consumed per drinking occasion. However, the relative importance and overall use of other strategies vary by age (Figure 20 and Table 21). Younger people, aged 15 to 34, are the most likely to report limiting drinks (71%), reducing visits to bars or taverns (44%), changing beverage type (41%), engaging in activities that do not involve drinking (33%), avoiding friends who drink (26%) and skipping parties or other social gatherings (25%). Next to limiting drinks (51%), older people, aged 55 plus, report changing beverage type (30%), fewer visits to bars (20%), avoiding friends who drink (17%), engaging in activities that do not involve drinking (16%) and skipping parties (12%). In general, a lower percentage of older than younger people report each strategy for limiting consumption.

To clarify the relationship between age and strategies for reduction, strategies for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey (Table 22) were compared with strategies given by

people for ever limiting consumption (Table 21). Both men and women, in all age groups, who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are more likely to limit drinks than those who had ever limited consumption. The largest differences are for people 55 years of age and over — a difference of 17 percentage points for men and 25 percentage points for women. Older men who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are less likely to avoid friends and visit bars less frequently than those who had ever limited consumption.

The relative and overall importance of strategies for limiting consumption at some point in their lives, reported by people of different ages, differ for men and women. This is because the use of strategies varies for men and women (Table 21). The most common strategies cited by younger men (15 to 34 years) are limiting drinks (76%), going to bars less often (51%), changing beverages (36%) and changing activities (36%). These reasons remain important for middle-aged men (35 to 54 years), but the relative importance changes. Changing beverages (39%) is more important, and fewer visits to bars (38%) is less important. The rank ordering of the strategies

Figure 19:
Strategies used to quit or reduce alcohol consumption, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

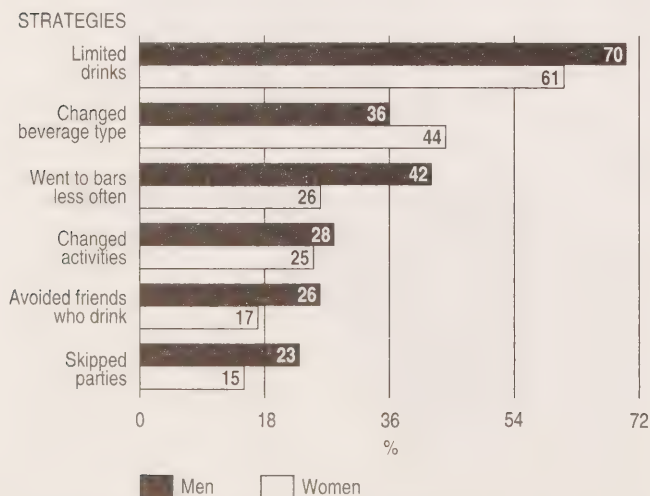
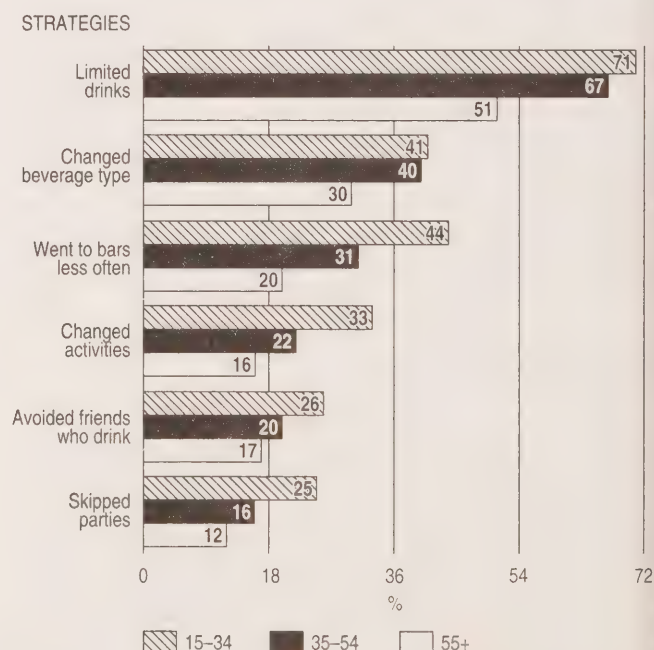


Figure 20:
Strategies used to quit or reduce alcohol consumption, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



remains the same for older men (55 years and older): limiting drinks (55%), changing beverages (30%) and fewer visits to bars (26%).

The relative importance of the strategies is similar for women in each age group, but the overall importance of each strategy declines with age. Women 15 to 34 years of age reduced consumption by limiting drinks (66%), changing beverages (49%) and limiting visits to bars (34%). Middle-aged women between 35 and 54 years of age are less likely to use the latter two strategies. Older women used fewer strategies. Women 55 and over reduced consumption by limiting drinks (43%), changing beverages (30%), changing activities (17%) and avoiding friends who drank (11%).

For people of almost all ages, more men than women report use of every strategy for limiting consumption ever in their lives. The exceptions are that more young women than young men report a change in beverage types and more older women than older men report a change in activities. The most consistent differences between men and women are in the 15 to 34 age group.

The relative difference in the percentage of men and women choosing each reason does not vary sharply across age categories. Men and women differ only in the likelihood of changing beverage types. There is no difference in the likelihood of older men or women reporting the strategy of changing beverage types, whereas there is a 14 percentage point difference between young women and men.

Education



In general, people of different current educational levels report some differences in strategies used during a past attempt at limiting alcohol consumption. Compared to people with a university degree, those with less than a secondary school education are more likely to skip parties (a difference of 16 percentage points), avoid friends (a difference of 14 percentage points), get involved in new activities (a difference of nine percentage points) and visit bars less often (a difference of eight percentage points). The remaining strategies, limiting drinks and changing beverage types, showed less variation in overall use by education level (Table 23).

To clarify the relationship between education and strategies for reduction, strategies for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey (Table 24) were compared with strategies given by people for limiting consumption at any point in their lives (Table 23). People at all levels of education who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are more likely to limit drinks than those who had ever limited consumption. The largest differences are for people with less education — a difference of ten percentage points for people with less than a secondary school education and 12 percentage points for people who had completed high school.

The patterns for people of different educational levels who had ever limited consumption are similar for men and women, with only two main exceptions. Men with a university degree (73%) report limiting drinks more than men with less than a secondary school education (65%). By contrast, women with a university degree (58%) report limiting drinks less than women with less than a secondary school education (64%). There is little variation by educational level for men in their likelihood to report involvement in new activities (a difference of five percentage points). By contrast, women with less than a secondary school education (34%) are much more likely than women with a university degree (17%) to get involved in new activities — a difference of 17 percentage points.

In general, the relative importance of reduction strategies ever used in people's lives does not vary by educational level. The following rank order is typical of all age groups: limiting drinks, changing beverages, fewer visits to bars, new activities, avoiding friends who drink and skipping parties.

The rank order, however, changes across educational levels for men and women. Limiting drinks is the most common strategy for men of all educational levels. Men with a university degree tend to rank changing beverage types next, whereas men in other categories tend to rank fewer visits to bars next. Women in all educational categories report limiting drinks and changing beverage types most frequently. Women with less than a secondary school education report new activities as the most common third choice, whereas women in all the other educational categories report fewer visits to bars as their most common third choice.

The likelihood of men reporting use of strategies more than women varies by educational level (Table 23). Women at every level of education are more likely than men to report changing beverage type. Women with less than a secondary school education are just as likely as or more likely than men to have gotten involved in new activities, changed beverages, limited drinks and skipped parties. Otherwise, men are more likely to report heavier use of strategies than women.

The percentage of men and women at each level of education choosing each strategy is not very different. The only strategies that vary by sex across educational categories are skipping parties and limiting drinks. Women with a high-school diploma are less likely than men to have skipped parties (a difference of 15 percentage points), and less educated women are just as likely as less educated men to have skipped parties. Women with a university degree are less likely than men to have limited drinks (a difference of 15 percentage points), compared to a difference of only one percentage point between men and women without a secondary school diploma.

Income



In general, people of different current income levels report some differences in strategies used during a past attempt at limiting alcohol consumption (Table 25). Compared to people in the highest income bracket, people with a household income of less than \$10,000 report higher use of strategies such as skipping parties (a difference of 11 percentage points), avoiding friends who drink (a difference of 15 percentage points), limiting bar visits (a difference of 12 percentage points) and involvement in new activities (a difference of ten percentage points).

To clarify the relationship between income and strategies for reduction, strategies for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey (Table 26) were compared with strategies given by people for limiting consumption ever in their lives (Table 25). People in all income brackets who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are more likely to limit drinks than those who had ever limited consumption. People with the lowest income showed the most variation in use of reduction strategies. Those who had limited consumption in the year preceding the survey are more likely to skip parties,

avoid friends, limit bar visits, limit drinks and get involved in new activities and less likely to change beverage types than those who had ever limited consumption.

The pattern of strategies for reduction of alcohol consumption ever in their lives is similar for men and women in all income categories, with the exception of one strategy. Forty percent of women with the lowest household income are likely to change beverages. There is a gradual increase for women in each income bracket, which culminates in 49% of women in the highest bracket reporting a change in beverages. By contrast, men at both ends of the income distribution report changing beverages to the same extent (40%), whereas men in the middle ranges use this strategy less.

In general, the relative importance of reduction strategies varies somewhat by income level (Table 25). People in all income brackets report limiting beverages as the most common strategy. People with a household income of less than \$10,000 a year are just as likely to report limiting bar visits (41%) or changing beverages (41%). By contrast, people in households earning over \$60,000 report beverage changes (43%) in second place and limiting bar visits (29%) in third place.

A look at men and women separately reveals differences in the rank order across income brackets for men and women. Men in all income brackets are most likely to report limiting drinks and then fewer bar visits, except for men with the highest income, who report changing beverages in second place. Women in all income groups are most likely to report limiting drinks and then changing beverage types.

The likelihood of men choosing specific strategies more than women varies by current income level (Table 25). Women at every income level are at least as likely as men to change beverage type. Women in households earning between \$10,000 and \$19,999 are also as likely as or more likely than men to get involved in new activities, limit drinks, avoid friends who drink and skip parties. There is also little difference for involvement in new activities for women and men in households earning between \$20,000 and \$39,999. Otherwise, men are more likely than women to report use of strategies.

The relative difference in the percentage of men and women in each income group choosing a strategy varies by over ten percentage points across all strategies, except for limiting visits to bars. The largest variation is for limiting the number of drinks. Men in the lowest income bracket are more likely than women to have limited drinks — a difference of 15 percentage points. In comparison, there is only a two percentage point difference between men and women in the next income bracket.

Employment Status



In general, there are significant differences among occupational groups in terms of the use of strategies to limit alcohol consumption (Table 27). Retired people, both men and women, make the least use of all strategies: skipping parties (13%), avoiding friends who drink (17%), fewer visits to bars (21%), limiting drinks (52%), changing beverages (32%) and involvement in new activities (16%). In general, people who are looking for work and students make the most use of all strategies. The only exception is that white-collar employees other than managers/professionals are the most likely to report changing beverage types.

To clarify the relationship between employment status and strategies for reduction, strategies for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey (Table 28) were compared with strategies given by people for limiting consumption ever in their lives (Table 27). There is a tendency for people in white-collar jobs other than managers/professionals, in blue-collar jobs and keeping house who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey to be more likely to limit drinks than those with the same employment status who had ever limited consumption. By contrast, retired people who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are less likely to limit drinks than those who had ever limited consumption — a difference of 22 percentage points. Retired people who had limited consumption in the year preceding the survey are also less likely to avoid friends and limit bar visits than those who had ever limited consumption.

The relative and overall importance of strategies for limiting consumption at some point in their lives, reported by people in different employment categories, do not reflect the importance of these reasons

for men and women considered separately. This is because the use of strategies varies for men and women (Table 27). Men who are looking for work are more likely than other men to report strategies such as fewer bar visits and limiting drinks, whereas these strategies are most heavily reported by female students. In contrast, male students are more likely than other men to report skipping parties, whereas this strategy is most reported by women who are looking for work.

In general, the relative importance of reduction strategies varies considerably by employment status. People in managerial/professional jobs and other white-collar jobs report use of strategies in the following order: limit drinks (69% each), change beverages (41% and 45%, respectively), fewer bar visits (31% and 37%, respectively), new activities (24% and 27%, respectively), avoid friends who drink (19% and 21%, respectively) and skip parties (14% and 17%, respectively). Both men and women in these occupations ranked the choices in this order. People in all other employment categories also were the most likely to limit drinks as their most common strategy, but there are not any further similarities.

Moreover, men and women in each of the other employment categories ranked the strategies differently. For example, for men, there is wide variation in second and third choice. Men in managerial/professional and other white-collar jobs are just as likely to have changed beverages as gone to bars less often. Men in blue-collar jobs and men looking for work are more likely to have gone to bars less often than changed beverages. Retired men are more likely to have changed beverages than gone to bars less often. Male students reported fewer bar visits and involvement in new activities.

The most common second choice for women is changing beverages: managers/professionals (48%), other white-collar workers (48%), blue-collar workers (46%), students (47%), homemakers (41%) and retired people (percentage suppressed). Women who are looking for work are more likely to have skipped parties (percentage suppressed) as the second choice. There is considerable variation in third choice (Table 27).

The likelihood of men choosing specific strategies more than women varies by current employment

status. All women, except those looking for work or retired, are more likely than men to report changing beverage type. Women with blue-collar jobs, women who are looking for work and women who are keeping house are as likely as men to have gotten involved in new activities. Women who are looking for work are also more likely than men to have skipped parties. The number of men who keep house is too small to make generalizations, but the data show that women in this category are more likely than or as likely as men to use all strategies except limiting visits to bars.

The relative difference in the percentage of men and women in each occupational group choosing a strategy varies by over ten percentage points for all strategies. Ignoring the category of keeping house, the largest variations are for strategies such as changing beverage types and skipping parties. Male students are less likely than female students to have changed beverages — a difference of 13 percentage points. By contrast, men who are looking for work are more likely than women to have changed beverages (percentage suppressed). Male students are more likely than female students to have skipped parties — a difference of 16 percentage points. Men who are looking for work are less likely to have skipped parties than women (percentage suppressed).

Marital Status



In general, people in different current marital status categories report major differences in strategies used during a past attempt at limiting alcohol consumption. People who have never been married report the most strategies (Table 29). In particular, they report heaviest use of skipping parties (31%), fewer bar visits (47%), limiting drinks (75%) and new activities (37%). The pattern is the same for men and women (Table 29). Separated men report the highest likelihood of avoiding friends who drink (34%) and changing beverages (45%) than other men. Separated women report higher use of changing beverages (54%) than other women, whereas divorced women report higher likelihood of avoiding friends who drink (28%). Widowed people report the least use of all strategies: skipping parties (percentage suppressed), avoiding friends who drink (percentage suppressed), fewer bar visits (percentage suppressed), limiting drinks (47%), changing beverages (26%) and new activities (percentage suppressed). The pattern is the same for both widowed men and women.

To clarify the relationship between marital status and strategies for reduction, strategies for limiting consumption during the year preceding the survey (Table 30) were compared with strategies given by people for limiting consumption ever in their lives (Table 29). There is a tendency for people in all marital status categories who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey to be more likely to limit drinks than those with the same marital status who had ever limited consumption. The largest difference is for widowed people — a difference of 33 percentage points. The most variation between people who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey and those who had ever limited consumption is for divorced people. Divorced people who had limited consumption during the year preceding the survey are more likely to limit visits to bars and limit drinks but are less likely to change beverage types and get involved in new activities.

In general, the relative importance of reduction strategies used by people ever in their lives varies in minor ways by marital status (Table 29). Almost everyone ranks limiting drinks and changing beverage types as their first two choices, respectively. The main exceptions are single (never married) men, who rank fewer bar visits in second place and changing beverages in third place. People in all marital status categories tend to rank fewer visits to bars in third place. The main exceptions are single men, who rank this as second choice, and widowed females, who report new activities in third place.

There is some discrepancy between the relative importance assigned strategies by men and women of the same marital status. The most correspondence is for men and women who were either married or separated. Divorced men and widowed men ranked fewer bar visits higher than divorced women, whereas the women ranked new activities higher. Single men ranked avoiding friends who drink higher than never-married women, whereas the women ranked changing beverages higher.

The likelihood of men choosing specific strategies more than women varies by current marital status. All women, except widowed women, are as likely as or more likely than men to report changing beverage type. Divorced, widowed and single women are as likely as or more likely than men to have engaged in new activities. Widowed and single women are as

likely as or more likely than men to report limiting beverages. Divorced and widowed women are as likely as or more likely than men to report avoiding friends who drink, and divorced women are as likely as men to report skipping parties.

The relative difference in the percentage of men and women in each marital status category choosing each strategy varies the most for changing beverages and limiting drinks. Widowed men are more likely than widowed women to report changing beverages (a difference of 25 percentage points), and separated men are less likely than separated women to report changing beverages (a difference of ten percentage points). Divorced men are more likely than divorced women to have limited drinks (a difference of 17 percentage points), and widowed men are less likely than widowed women to have limited drinks (a difference of four percentage points).

Language



In general, Anglophones report more use of all strategies than Francophones (Table 31). This is the case for men and women, with only three exceptions. In these cases, Anglophone and Francophone men report similar use of the strategies: avoiding friends who drink, fewer bar visits and limiting drinks. There are not a sufficient number of people who speak other languages to make valid comparisons.

The relative importance of reduction strategies varies considerably by language spoken (Table 31). Anglophones report limiting drinks (68%), changing beverages (45%), fewer bar visits (36%), new activities (30%), avoiding friends who drink (23%) and skipping parties (22%). Both men and women ranked the choices in this order. Francophones and people of other language groups also are the most likely to limit drinks as their most common strategy, but there are no further similarities.

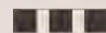
Moreover, there is large variation by gender in the relative importance of strategies for both Francophones and people who speak other languages. The next most common strategies for Francophone men are fewer bar visits (40%), avoiding friends who drink (26%) and getting involved in new activities (16%). The next most common strategies for men of language groups other than French or English are

fewer bar visits (43%), avoiding friends who drink (39%) and changing beverages (33%). After limiting drinks (51%), Francophone women reported fewer bar visits (19%), changed beverages (16%) and new activities (12%). The numbers are not large enough to report on women who speak other languages.

The likelihood of men choosing strategies more than women varies by language group (Table 31). Women in all language groups are more likely than men to report changing beverage type. Otherwise, women whose language is other than English or French are the only women to be more likely to report any of the other strategies. These women are more likely than men who are neither Anglophone nor Francophone to have skipped parties, changed beverage types and gotten involved in new activities and just as likely as men to have limited drinks.

Ignoring the category of other languages because of its small representation, the relative difference in the percentage of men and women among Francophones and Anglophones choosing each strategy does not vary by over ten percentage points, except for limiting the number of drinks. There is only a six percentage point spread between Anglophone men and women, compared to an 18 percentage point spread between Francophone men and women.

Identification of a Harmful Effect



This section examines the relationship between experiencing a harmful effect from alcohol use and the type of strategies used by current drinkers to limit consumption. It differs from the previous discussion, as former drinkers are not included in this analysis. People identified harmful effects from alcohol consumption on their friendships, physical health, happiness, home life, work or studies and financial position (Q36 in Appendix B).

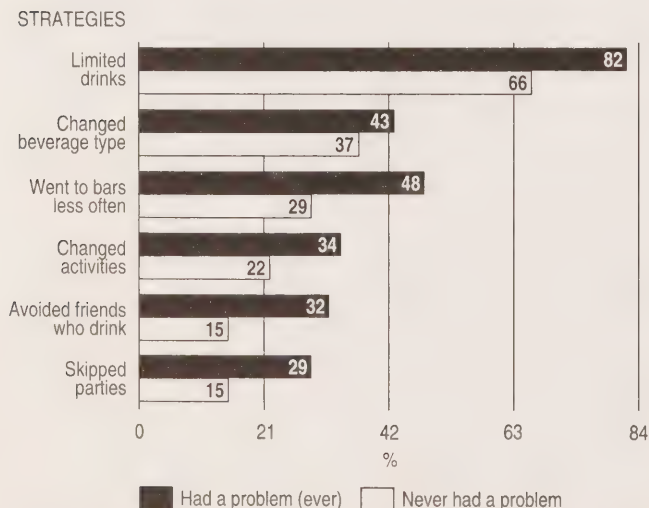
Use of strategies varies significantly between current drinkers who have experienced a harmful effect and those who have not (Figure 21 and Table 32). Current drinkers who have not experienced a harmful effect from drinking report using fewer strategies for reducing consumption than those who have experienced a problem: a difference of 18 percentage points for fewer bar visits, 17 percentage points for avoiding friends who drink, 16 percentage points for limiting

drinks, 14 percentage points for skipping parties, 12 percentage points for new activities and five percentage points for changing beverages. Limiting consumption for people who have experienced a harmful effect involves a much bigger lifestyle change than for people who decide to limit without first experiencing an alcohol-related harmful effect.

Current male and female drinkers who have experienced a harmful effect are just as likely to get involved in new activities and limit drinks (Table 32). Current male drinkers who have experienced a harmful effect are more likely than female drinkers to avoid friends and limit visits to bars. Current female drinkers who experienced a harmful effect are more likely than men to change beverages. The pattern is similar for current drinkers who have never experienced a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption. The exceptions are that these men are more likely than their female counterparts to limit drinks.

In general, there is more similarity in the relative importance of strategies between people of the same gender than there is between people based on whether or not they had experienced a harmful effect from alcohol use (Table 32).

Figure 21:
Strategies used to quit or reduce alcohol consumption, by experience with alcohol-related problems, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Discussion

Characteristics of People Who Have Limited Consumption



Previous research places an almost exclusive focus on the characteristics of problem drinkers who seek to reduce, resulting in the general exclusion of research on reduction by drinkers. Another body of research compares abstainers (no alcohol in the year preceding the survey) to current drinkers to sort out the reasons differentiating these two groups of people (Cisin and Cahalan 1968; Knupfer 1968). The data in this report are not directly comparable to either of these methods. The people who reported on their attempt to reduce or quit were current drinkers who had made a reduction attempt at some point in their lives compared to current drinkers who had never made such an attempt.

According to the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, the characteristics of people who were most likely to have limited consumption in the year preceding the survey include youth, low income (for men), student status, never married and English speaking. Current male drinkers are more likely to have limited consumption than current female drinkers.

The likelihood of more men than women reducing consumption is consistent with the facts of heavier alcohol use and a higher level of alcohol-related problems among men. Previous research has not identified the dimensions of the drinking problem for the elderly (Cohen 1988). Other research on current moderate drinkers who were heavy drinkers found that more men than women fell into this category and that people between 40 and 59 years of age were more likely to be represented (Knupfer 1968).

The finding in the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey that men with a low income are more likely to limit consumption than other men is in keeping with an earlier Canadian survey (Popham 1959) and with U.S. results (Cisin and Cahalan 1968).

Reasons for Quitting or Reducing Consumption



The research on alcohol consumption focuses primarily on reasons drinkers give for drinking (Brown et al. 1980; Cahalan 1970; Social Research Group 1981; Straus and Bacon 1953), reasons alcoholics give for taking treatment (Hingson et al. 1982; Orford and Edwards 1977; Saunders et al. 1979) and reasons non-drinkers give for abstaining (Hilton 1986; Knupfer and Room 1970; Straus and Bacon 1953). Little research exists on reasons given by drinkers, in general, for limiting consumption or not drinking when the opportunity was available (Roizen 1983; Greenfield et al. 1989). This distinction is important, as there is some indication that different patterns of assigning reasons occur according to the severity of the previous drinking problem (Edwards et al. 1987).

With these reservations in mind, the similarities and differences in the current Canada-wide sample and previous research reports become understandable. The high priority given to the effects of alcohol on the individual's health as a motivation to quit or reduce consumption coincides with previous research on the motivations that people with a drinking problem give for quitting drinking (Lemere 1953; Barcha et al. 1968; Cahalan 1970; Goodwin et al. 1971; Knupfer 1972; Saunders et al. 1979; Tuchfeld 1981; Stall 1983).

The most important reason given by women in the Canada-wide sample — pregnancy/diet/athletics — is, however, glaringly absent in the literature on problem drinkers. The prominence of this reason in the Canada-wide survey is likely due to the tendency for women, even those who previously drank very little, to reduce consumption during their pregnancy. However, people who report a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption in the Canada-wide survey attached importance to this reason as a motivation for reducing or quitting.

“Social pressure,” referring to experiencing negative social sanctions as a result of drinking, is mentioned as a mediating factor to spontaneous remission

from problem drinking (Thorpe and Perret 1959; Cahalan 1970; Goodwin et al. 1971; Knupfer 1972; Tuchfeld 1981; Stall 1983). Yet the influence of family or friends is ranked low among the reasons given by current drinkers in the Canada-wide sample for having limited consumption. Even the effects on family/home life and on friends/social life are not among the most important reasons given by the Canada-wide sample for having limited consumption.

This discrepancy is most likely accounted for by the fact that problem drinkers are subject to more stringent forms of social pressure than are light or moderate drinkers. Indeed, the people who experienced a harmful effect from their consumption in this survey were much more likely than others to cite reasons related to social relations as important in their decision to reduce alcohol use.

The tendency for problem drinkers to report financial difficulties as a reason for limiting consumption is prevalent in past research (Cahalan 1970; Saunders et al. 1979; Stall 1983; Thorpe and Perret 1959; Tuchfeld 1981) as well as in this Canada-wide survey.

Demographic factors are not commonly related to whether problem drinkers seek help (Hingson et al. 1982). By contrast, this study found that important variations in reasons given for having limited consumption exist based on age, sex, education, marital status, language spoken, income and occupation. Some of this variation can be explained because some reasons are more relevant to one group of people than another — e.g., pregnancy and age — but further research is necessary to uncover some of the other differences — e.g., pregnancy and language.

Other studies have shown that female heavy drinkers are more likely than male heavy drinkers to seek treatment because of marital and interpersonal problems (Gomberg 1974). The trend in the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey sample is in the other direction. Men who limited consumption are slightly more likely than women to have done so for reasons related to the effects on family and friends and to the influence of family and friends. Even married men are more likely than married women to give effects on family as a reason for reducing consumption. Of people in every marital status category, only divorced women are as likely as men to have limited consumption for family reasons.

Strategies Used to Reduce Consumption



The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey found that, aside from the obvious strategy of limiting the number of drinks, one-third of Canadians change beverages and limit visits to bars in order to limit consumption. The general findings are representative of people who did not report a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption. People who did report a harmful effect from their alcohol consumption, however, report a higher use of all strategies and rank limiting visits to bars as more important than changing beverage types.

Other than the study of university students by Neidigh et al. (1988), there is only limited research on the strategies that people, in general, use to reduce alcohol consumption. Most of the literature on coping strategies is targeted at how problem drinkers were able to stop. Factors associated with family life, and especially marriage, are typically suggested by informants (Goodwin et al. 1971; Knupfer 1972; Edwards et al. 1987; Saunders et al. 1979; Tuchfeld 1981; Stall 1983). Level of motivation (Knupfer 1972; Edwards et al. 1987; Saunders et al. 1979; Tuchfeld 1981) was also found to be important to spontaneous remission from problem drinking. Positive reinforcement (Goodwin et al. 1971; Edwards et al. 1987; Stall 1983) was found to be an important maintenance variable after individuals decided to quit drinking. Cognitive factors involving the maintenance of abstinence overwhelmingly involved negative associations to the notion of drinking (Ludwig 1985). Change in lifestyle is also a common response (Edwards et al. 1987; Knupfer 1972; Saunders et al. 1979; Tuchfeld 1981).

The divergence in use of strategies by different kinds of people in other studies as well as in the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggests that different reduction processes and strategies may be appropriate to the needs of different people. As other research confirms, no one stereotyped treatment program or personal strategy is likely to be of help to everyone (Neidigh et al. 1988). Similarly, it is possible that the success of different coping strategies may depend on the particular situation and sex of the drinker (Neidigh et al. 1988). Finally, different programs and different coping, cognitive and reality strategies may be required for less as opposed to more dependent subjects (Edwards et al. 1987).

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■ **Table 1:**
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by province and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Canada	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
Nfld.	653	289	45.0	25.1
Male	351	164	53.0	28.8
Female	302	125	35.8	20.9
P.E.I.	537	69	45.3	24.0
Male	295	34	56.3	30.2
Female	242	29	31.8	16.5
N.S.	873	491	44.4	25.5
Male	428	261	55.8	33.2
Female	445	231	33.5	18.2
N.B.	554	376	50.5	27.4
Male	304	208	62.2	34.5
Female	250	168	36.4	18.8
Que.	1,372	3,999	36.4	18.5
Male	666	2,140	43.1	21.6
Female	706	1,859	30.0	15.6
Ont.	1,549	5,812	44.8	24.8
Male	750	3,053	51.3	28.7
Female	799	2,759	38.7	21.2
Man.	752	658	55.6	32.7
Male	355	346	59.2	34.1
Female	397	312	52.4	31.5
Sask.	713	587	48.0	28.1
Male	342	308	53.8	35.1
Female	371	279	42.6	21.6
Alta.	821	1,496	51.5	28.4
Male	404	795	55.2	27.2
Female	417	701	48.0	29.5
B.C.	936	1,982	54.8	26.1
Male	437	1,002	61.8	30.4
Female	499	979	48.7	22.2

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 2:**Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989**

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total 15+	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
15-19	610	1,385	47.1	40.4
Male	307	726	51.2	44.8
Female	303	659	42.5	35.5
20-24	925	1,787	54.0	37.8
Male	456	955	62.7	43.0
Female	469	832	44.1	31.8
25-34	2,634	4,061	51.8	27.6
Male	1,261	2,130	55.8	29.8
Female	1,373	1,931	47.5	25.1
35-44	1,912	3,293	44.8	21.9
Male	967	1,683	52.0	25.4
Female	945	1,611	37.3	18.2
45-54	1,013	2,065	41.3	19.4
Male	538	1,145	47.5	21.2
Female	475	920	33.5	17.2
55-64	787	1,683	32.8	13.1
Male	397	906	39.9	16.1
Female	390	777	24.5	*9.6
65+	879	1,477	31.5	11.4
Male	406	766	37.3	*13.5
Female	473	711	25.2	*9.1

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:**Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989**

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
Less than secondary	2,605	4,434	43.2	23.7
Male	1,437	2,514	50.9	27.4
Female	1,168	1,920	33.2	18.9
Secondary completed	2,474	4,604	45.0	25.6
Male	1,153	2,279	52.5	29.9
Female	1,321	2,325	37.6	21.4
Some post-secondary				
non-university degree	2,260	4,092	44.4	24.9
Male	1,008	2,025	49.4	27.0
Female	1,252	2,066	39.5	22.9
University degree	1,363	2,498	46.8	24.6
Male	712	1,440	49.2	25.9
Female	651	1,058	43.6	22.8

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
<\$10,000	474	569	50.5	30.9
Male	179	246	61.0	41.8
Female	295	323	42.4	22.5
\$10,000-\$19,999	1,384	1,892	44.9	24.1
Male	608	869	49.8	26.8
Female	776	1,023	40.8	21.8
\$20,000-\$39,999	2,773	4,477	42.7	22.9
Male	1,396	2,335	50.8	26.1
Female	1,377	2,142	34.0	19.3
\$40,000-\$59,999	1,859	3,788	46.5	24.5
Male	1,031	2,135	52.3	26.9
Female	828	1,653	39.0	21.4
\$60,000+	1,271	3,041	47.7	27.0
Male	711	1,818	50.2	28.3
Female	560	1,223	43.9	25.1

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 5:

Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
Manager/professional	2,019	3,524	43.9	22.9
Male	1,013	1,969	46.4	22.1
Female	1,006	1,555	40.6	23.8
Other white collar	1,846	3,325	46.6	27.6
Male	648	1,277	55.5	32.0
Female	1,198	2,048	41.1	24.9
Blue collar	1,798	3,227	51.4	26.8
Male	1,572	2,850	53.4	28.0
Female	226	397	37.2	18.0
Looking for work	239	384	56.7	27.7
Male	137	223	65.8	30.2
Female	102	160	44.1	24.1
Student	811	1,751	44.9	37.6
Male	387	900	51.6	44.4
Female	424	851	37.9	30.4
Keeping house	1,041	1,731	36.7	15.8
Male	22	48	—	—
Female	1,019	1,683	36.2	15.7
Retired	868	1,528	32.6	12.8
Male	476	892	39.6	15.9
Female	392	636	22.8	*8.4
Other	78	142	47.4	*21.3
Male	48	92	43.6	*28.2
Female	30	50	54.6	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 6:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
Married	4,774	9,294	41.7	20.3
Male	2,442	4,981	46.4	22.0
Female	2,332	4,314	36.4	18.3
Separated	356	455	51.5	24.9
Male	152	204	64.4	28.2
Female	204	251	41.1	22.2
Divorced	534	718	49.3	20.7
Male	214	315	54.5	21.4
Female	320	404	45.2	*20.2
Widowed	486	609	27.2	*9.9
Male	98	127	36.3	*12.9
Female	388	482	24.8	*9.1
Never married	2,605	4,667	52.2	35.4
Male	1,424	2,680	58.5	39.3
Female	1,181	1,987	43.6	30.3

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 7:
Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Total population	8,760	15,752	44.9	24.5
Male	4,332	8,310	50.9	27.6
Female	4,428	7,441	38.2	21.1
English	7,028	11,186	48.7	27.2
Male	3,436	5,773	55.0	30.4
Female	3,592	5,413	42.0	23.9
French	1,488	3,785	35.7	18.9
Male	740	2,011	43.5	22.5
Female	748	1,775	26.8	14.8
Other	193	673	27.5	15.0
Male	133	478	29.5	*17.8
Female	60	195	*22.6	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:

Percentage of current drinkers who quit or reduced their drinking, by whether or not they experienced an alcohol-related problem as a result of their alcohol use and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Whether or not had problem/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Ever	In year preceding survey
Never had a problem	6,815	12,514	36.2	18.8
Male	3,071	6,220	40.7	21.2
Female	3,744	6,294	31.7	16.4
Had a problem (ever)	1,923	3,202	78.3	46.9
Male	1,241	2,055	80.7	46.6
Female	682	1,147	74.0	47.4
Had a problem (in year preceding survey)	1,134	1,928	76.4	57.0
Male	727	1,221	79.7	58.1
Female	407	707	70.9	54.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:

Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total 15+	4,631	7,894	30.7	18.3	26.4	8.8	14.1	29.6	10.0	15.7	15.0	11.2
Male	2,700	4,799	21.6	21.0	31.4	11.0	16.5	32.8	11.4	19.3	16.7	12.7
Female	1,931	3,095	44.8	14.1	18.7	5.5	10.4	24.7	7.8	10.2	12.4	8.9
15-34	2,385	3,883	37.7	14.4	25.4	9.9	12.5	26.7	10.9	17.9	15.8	12.5
Male	1,287	2,260	26.1	15.8	29.6	12.2	13.9	31.1	11.8	23.1	16.9	12.3
Female	1,098	1,623	53.9	12.4	19.6	*6.8	10.6	20.6	9.7	10.5	14.3	12.7
35-54	1,505	2,665	28.9	20.6	30.3	9.0	17.9	31.6	10.3	14.4	15.4	11.4
Male	946	1,663	21.5	23.4	36.4	11.4	21.5	31.8	12.2	16.2	17.3	14.9
Female	559	1,002	41.0	16.1	20.3	*5.0	*12.0	31.3	*7.2	*11.5	*12.2	*5.5
55+	741	1,346	13.9	25.0	21.5	*5.4	11.1	34.1	*6.6	12.0	11.9	*7.2
Male	467	876	*9.8	29.7	26.5	*7.4	*13.7	39.0	*8.5	15.1	14.8	*9.5
Female	274	470	21.7	*16.2	*12.2	—	*6.3	25.0	—	*6.2	*6.7	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 10:
Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption among current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total 15+	2,229	3,864	37.0	17.9	24.4	7.4	10.5	28.1	8.8	15.4	12.5	9.7
Male	1,280	2,290	29.1	21.5	29.0	9.0	12.2	30.5	10.2	19.1	13.0	10.4
Female	949	1,574	49.9	13.3	18.6	5.3	8.5	26.1	7.2	10.7	12.3	9.3
15-34	1,423	2,355	41.0	12.9	23.2	9.9	11.4	26.2	10.2	19.1	14.0	11.4
Male	779	1,371	31.7	15.4	25.4	11.9	11.8	29.1	10.5	24.0	13.8	10.8
Female	644	984	54.0	9.5	20.0	*7.2	10.8	22.2	9.9	12.5	14.2	12.3
35-54	606	1,121	35.3	25.2	28.8	*4.0	10.9	33.0	*7.9	*10.4	11.8	*7.4
Male	375	670	30.1	28.4	36.2	*5.4	*15.0	32.0	*11.1	*12.0	*13.6	*9.8
Female	231	451	43.0	20.2	17.7	—	—	34.4	—	*8.1	*9.2	—
55+	200	388	22.3	31.1	23.1	—	—	31.4	—	*9.1	—	—
Male	126	249	*11.8	37.7	30.1	—	—	33.9	—	*10.5	—	—
Female	74	139	41.8	*19.1	—	—	—	*27.0	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:
Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	30.7	18.3	26.4	8.8	14.1	29.6	10.0	15.7	15.0	11.2
Male	2,700	4,799	21.6	21.0	31.4	11.0	16.5	32.8	11.4	19.3	16.7	12.7
Female	1,931	3,095	44.8	14.1	18.7	5.5	10.4	24.7	7.8	10.2	12.4	8.9
Less than secondary	1,463	2,327	19.7	18.8	30.0	11.4	21.3	32.9	13.7	19.2	17.3	13.6
Male	993	1,574	14.2	21.1	31.7	13.1	22.0	36.4	14.1	22.9	17.9	14.2
Female	470	754	31.1	*14.1	26.4	*7.7	19.8	25.7	*13.0	*11.6	*16.0	*12.4
Secondary completed	1,284	2,242	35.2	17.9	26.4	7.8	13.0	26.7	8.7	15.7	16.0	11.7
Male	720	1,318	25.5	20.5	34.1	10.3	15.6	29.4	11.3	19.5	17.8	14.5
Female	564	923	49.2	14.1	15.3	*4.1	*9.4	23.0	*4.8	*10.3	13.6	*7.7
Some post-secondary												
non-university degree	1,125	1,935	35.7	18.0	24.9	9.7	11.7	27.8	9.9	16.3	14.6	11.3
Male	578	1,078	24.9	20.3	30.2	12.2	15.0	28.2	11.8	19.1	17.1	12.9
Female	547	856	49.4	15.2	18.3	*6.6	*7.5	27.4	*7.6	*12.8	*11.4	*9.3
University degree	699	1,252	38.4	20.4	24.0	*5.7	*7.9	33.3	*6.5	10.0	11.2	*6.9
Male	385	769	26.7	23.9	28.5	*7.0	*10.0	38.4	*6.1	*13.2	*12.9	*7.2
Female	314	483	57.2	*14.9	*16.9	—	—	25.1	*7.2	—	*8.5	*6.4

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption among current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	2,229	3,864	37.0	17.9	24.4	7.4	10.5	28.1	8.8	15.4	12.5	9.7
Less than secondary	663	1,052	28.6	19.2	28.5	9.9	16.9	27.5	14.3	16.4	14.0	12.9
Secondary completed	642	1,179	37.9	17.2	25.0	5.0	10.3	25.9	5.5	16.9	13.3	8.9
Some post-secondary												
non-university degree	594	1,019	42.0	16.1	21.7	9.8	8.1	28.8	9.5	17.7	11.9	8.7
University degree	328	614	44.7	21.9	23.1	*4.4	*5.6	35.7	*5.9	*8.7	*10.6	8.8

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:

Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	30.7	18.3	26.4	8.8	14.1	29.6	10.0	15.7	15.0	11.2
Male	2,700	4,799	21.6	21.0	31.4	11.0	16.5	32.8	11.4	19.3	16.7	12.7
Female	1,931	3,095	44.8	14.1	18.7	5.5	10.4	24.7	7.8	10.2	12.4	8.9
<\$10,000	295	352	*22.9	*16.2	27.6	*13.5	*19.0	33.1	*12.8	*24.6	*14.9	*11.3
Male	146	184	*16.4	*19.0	*29.3	*17.5	*21.9	46.2	*14.4	*27.4	*14.3	*14.5
Female	149	169	*30.0	—	*25.8	—	*15.7	*18.9	—	*21.5	*15.6	—
\$10,000–\$19,999	783	1,020	22.0	20.9	29.9	15.3	20.2	36.7	14.4	23.4	18.7	15.4
Male	426	546	*13.4	22.5	33.7	*18.7	21.2	38.8	*13.5	29.4	*19.3	*14.5
Female	357	474	31.9	*19.1	25.4	*11.4	*19.1	34.3	*15.4	*16.5	*18.1	*16.4
\$20,000–\$39,999	1,429	2,166	28.8	19.6	28.9	10.0	16.6	32.7	11.0	18.2	17.8	13.4
Male	888	1,383	17.8	22.3	33.8	12.6	19.3	35.1	13.1	21.9	20.3	15.9
Female	541	783	48.3	*14.6	20.2	*5.3	*12.0	28.5	*7.1	*11.7	*13.4	*9.1
\$40,000–\$59,999	964	1,885	32.8	20.3	30.1	7.2	13.7	28.9	9.6	13.0	14.9	11.5
Male	593	1,212	22.0	22.4	37.0	*9.7	17.9	30.9	11.8	17.1	17.3	14.4
Female	371	674	52.2	*16.7	*17.8	—	*6.2	25.3	*5.7	*5.6	*10.6	*6.2
\$60,000+	656	1,506	43.8	19.0	23.0	*4.9	8.4	29.9	*5.9	11.3	10.9	*7.5
Male	396	963	32.5	22.6	28.6	*6.3	*10.6	34.6	*7.2	14.7	*11.6	*8.2
Female	260	543	63.7	*12.8	*13.0	—	—	21.4	—	*5.3	*9.6	*6.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 14:

Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption among current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	2,229	3,864	37.0	17.9	24.4	7.4	10.5	28.1	8.8	15.4	12.5	9.7
<\$10,000	133	176	*30.8	—	*26.6	—	*19.1	*30.7	*14.1	*26.4	*12.7	15.9
\$10,000–\$19,999	354	456	30.1	*17.1	26.1	*16.1	*17.1	33.5	*15.4	22.5	*16.7	14.7
\$20,000–\$39,999	682	1,024	30.7	22.9	25.1	7.9	9.9	31.4	7.4	16.5	13.1	9.7
\$40,000–\$59,999	455	927	40.0	20.3	30.4	5.2	12.7	32.2	9.8	13.1	15.2	9.6
\$60,000+	350	822	49.8	17.8	22.1	*3.4	*5.7	27.5	*5.1	14.4	*8.7	6.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 15:

Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/ Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Preg- nancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/ studies (%)	Bad effect on family/ home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happi- ness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	30.7	18.3	26.4	8.8	14.1	29.6	10.0	15.7	15.0	11.2
Male	2,700	4,799	21.6	21.0	31.4	11.0	16.5	32.8	11.4	19.3	16.7	12.7
Female	1,931	3,095	44.8	14.1	18.7	5.5	10.4	24.7	7.8	10.2	12.4	8.9
Manager/professional	1,002	1,674	36.9	19.4	25.2	*5.8	11.2	30.2	7.6	8.9	11.9	7.8
Male	552	1,004	30.2	24.0	30.3	*6.3	14.5	33.4	*8.8	*10.4	14.2	*8.5
Female	450	670	49.1	*13.6	18.7	*5.3	*6.9	27.1	*6.2	*7.0	*9.1	*7.1
Other white collar	972	1,695	35.3	19.5	26.0	8.9	13.9	29.5	11.0	15.6	17.7	13.5
Male	420	790	25.6	22.5	30.5	13.2	15.1	34.2	13.7	18.5	19.9	16.2
Female	552	905	46.2	18.1	23.6	*5.5	13.6	27.1	*9.4	14.1	16.8	12.0
Blue collar	1,101	1,832	19.4	19.9	34.6	11.6	20.8	31.6	12.8	24.0	18.6	15.7
Male	1,001	1,671	17.7	21.3	36.9	12.6	21.1	31.7	13.6	25.3	18.4	16.3
Female	100	161	46.3	—	*24.1	—	*27.8	43.4	—	—	*28.8	—
Looking for work	164	239	*13.7	*13.8	*33.3	*15.6	*24.4	*31.4	*13.7	*22.5	*25.7	*17.3
Male	112	165	—	—	42.9	—	*29.5	*35.2	—	*30.4	*33.3	*24.8
Female	52	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Student	427	807	38.2	*10.0	20.9	*13.8	*8.4	22.0	*11.0	20.5	*10.8	*11.6
Male	231	471	37.3	*9.0	21.1	*17.0	*7.8	24.9	*9.7	24.2	*9.6	*8.7
Female	196	336	41.0	*11.7	21.4	*9.7	*9.8	*18.7	*13.8	*16.0	*12.8	*16.2
Keeping house	430	706	55.0	*14.7	*16.8	*4.3	*10.2	*23.2	*7.0	*9.4	*10.7	*5.4
Male	16	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	414	676	59.3	15.8	19.1	—	*9.9	22.1	*7.4	*9.6	10.8	—
Retired	414	693	*12.6	28.4	24.3	*5.7	*12.3	36.9	*7.2	*9.9	*11.4	*7.2
Male	297	515	*8.3	36.1	31.1	*6.6	15.7	43.2	*9.5	14.3	*13.7	*9.0
Female	117	178	31.1	—	—	—	—	*34.8	—	—	—	—
Other	59	94	*32.5	—	*33.7	—	—	62.4	—	—	29.2	—
Male	42	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	17	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

- Data not available

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 16:

Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption among current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	2,229	3,864	37.0	17.9	24.4	7.4	10.5	28.1	8.8	15.4	12.5	9.7
Manager/professional	489	805	45.8	18.6	22.1	—	*7.3	31.9	*5.4	*7.1	*9.0	5.8
Other white collar	502	918	43.1	18.1	24.5	*6.8	*11.9	29.9	*8.7	15.3	15.1	12.2
Blue collar	535	864	24.7	22.5	33.2	*7.2	14.8	32.0	*11.5	22.4	16.4	11.1
Looking for work	78	106	—	—	*33.4	*22.0	*29.0	*32.1	—	*26.6	—	—
Student	335	659	39.4	*8.3	*19.2	*15.2	*7.9	*18.6	*12.1	20.2	*9.4	*11.8
Retired	105	196	—	*39.6	*26.7	—	—	*30.8	—	—	—	—
Keeping house	162	273	56.3	*15.3	*16.0	—	—	*23.6	—	*12.2	*10.5	—
Other	18	30	—	—	—	—	—	*57.4	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 17:

Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	30.7	18.3	26.4	8.8	14.1	29.6	10.0	15.7	15.0	11.2
Male	2,700	4,799	21.6	21.0	31.4	11.0	16.5	32.8	11.4	19.3	16.7	12.7
Female	1,931	3,095	44.8	14.1	18.7	5.5	10.4	24.7	7.8	10.2	12.4	8.9
Married	2,399	4,418	33.9	20.6	24.3	7.1	14.4	29.1	8.3	11.9	13.2	10.3
Male	1,444	2,729	20.1	25.0	31.1	9.8	17.9	33.0	10.5	15.1	15.5	13.7
Female	955	1,689	56.3	13.5	13.3	*2.8	8.6	22.9	*4.8	*6.6	9.5	*4.8
Separated	210	292	*22.3	*21.3	41.1	*18.9	*23.9	39.0	*14.9	*22.2	*25.0	*13.2
Male	114	169	*19.0	*17.8	*40.6	*19.8	*27.3	*41.0	*17.8	*21.8	*26.5	—
Female	96	123	*26.9	*26.1	*41.7	—	—	*36.2	—	—	*22.8	—
Divorced	298	413	*17.2	*14.4	37.6	*11.1	*20.2	27.8	*13.4	*22.2	*22.1	*11.3
Male	144	198	—	*17.6	44.7	*11.3	*19.2	*26.9	*13.3	*25.5	*21.7	—
Female	154	215	*22.5	—	*31.0	—	*21.1	*28.6	*13.6	*19.1	*22.4	*12.0
Widowed	178	233	—	*19.2	*17.9	—	*14.0	34.0	—	*12.9	*13.6	—
Male	61	78	—	*24.7	*29.6	—	—	*49.6	—	—	—	—
Female	117	155	—	*16.5	—	—	—	*26.2	—	—	—	—
Never married	1,545	2,536	30.1	14.5	27.4	10.8	11.5	29.4	12.1	20.8	15.9	13.1
Male	936	1,623	26.2	14.8	29.4	12.5	12.1	31.6	11.8	24.9	16.5	11.8
Female	609	913	37.0	14.0	23.8	*7.7	*10.5	25.4	*12.6	*13.6	14.8	15.4

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 18:

Reasons for quitting or reducing alcohol consumption among current drinkers who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	2,229	3,864	37.0	17.9	24.4	7.4	10.5	28.1	8.8	15.4	12.5	9.7
Married	999	1,887	43.1	20.8	21.4	4.2	9.0	29.3	*6.0	9.6	9.7	7.0
Separated	91	113	*27.7	*23.7	*34.9	—	—	*36.0	—	—	—	—
Divorced	122	149	*26.8	*25.9	*39.9	—	*19.0	*24.9	—	*20.9	*23.7	—
Widowed	42	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never married	975	1,654	33.7	14.0	26.7	11.3	11.7	27.5	12.2	22.2	15.3	13.1

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 19:

Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	30.7	18.3	26.4	8.8	14.1	29.6	10.0	15.7	15.0	11.2
Male	2,700	4,799	21.6	21.0	31.4	11.0	16.5	32.8	11.4	19.3	16.7	12.7
Female	1,931	3,095	44.8	14.1	18.7	5.5	10.4	24.7	7.8	10.2	12.4	8.9
English	3,872	6,053	33.8	19.9	26.4	8.3	13.6	27.3	10.1	15.2	15.4	11.0
Male	2,227	3,584	23.8	22.7	31.1	9.8	15.4	30.1	11.6	18.3	16.8	11.9
Female	1,645	2,469	48.4	15.8	19.7	6.1	10.9	23.2	7.8	10.7	13.4	9.6
French	629	1,519	22.1	12.6	28.6	11.1	18.1	38.7	10.6	19.4	14.8	12.1
Male	397	1,016	15.4	14.8	34.2	15.0	21.9	40.6	11.5	24.1	17.0	14.9
Female	232	503	35.5	*8.2	*17.3	—	*10.4	35.0	*8.7	*9.8	*10.2	*6.5
Other	76	207	*18.9	*22.9	*21.8	—	—	47.2	—	*12.5	—	*18.1
Male	54	154	*16.6	*27.2	*26.7	—	—	53.6	—	—	—	*20.2
Female	22	53	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 20:

Reasons for ever quitting or reducing alcohol consumption, by whether or not current drinkers experienced an alcohol-related problem as a result of their alcohol use and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Whether or not had problem/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Pregnancy, diet, athletic training (%)	Because getting older (%)	Felt they had a drinking problem (%)	Bad effect on work/studies (%)	Bad effect on family/home life (%)	Bad effect on physical health (%)	Bad effect on friends or social life (%)	Bad effect on financial position (%)	Bad effect on happiness or outlook (%)	Influence of family or friends (%)
Never had a problem	2,524	4,527	38.2	17.6	13.9	3.1	3.2	18.6	2.0	8.8	4.9	5.1
Male	1,289	2,534	26.7	21.2	17.7	4.4	3.8	20.8	1.9	11.4	5.2	5.1
Female	1,235	1,993	53.3	12.9	8.9	1.3	2.3	15.8	2.1	5.5	4.5	5.0
Had a problem (ever)	1,551	2,507	28.8	24.2	45.0	14.4	27.4	45.8	19.7	26.1	27.7	20.2
Male	1,033	1,659	21.1	26.4	48.7	15.2	28.5	46.6	20.7	28.6	26.8	21.3
Female	518	84.8	43.8	20.0	38.0	12.8	25.5	44.2	17.8	21.0	29.4	18.2
Had a problem (in year preceding survey)	907	1,474	31.6	20.1	43.4	14.1	26.8	49.0	19.3	30.5	26.5	21.4
Male	605	973	25.1	20.5	46.8	16.3	27.8	48.5	21.3	33.5	24.5	22.6
Female	302	501	44.3	19.2	36.8	9.8	24.9	50.0	15.7	24.7	30.4	19.0

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 21:

Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total 15+	4,631	7,894	19.8	22.3	35.4	66.3	38.7	26.5
Male	2,700	4,799	23.2	25.7	41.7	69.6	35.6	27.6
Female	1,931	3,095	14.6	17.0	25.5	61.2	43.6	24.9
15-34	2,385	3,883	25.4	25.7	43.6	71.4	41.3	33.2
Male	1,287	2,260	30.7	30.2	50.8	75.5	35.6	35.5
Female	1,098	1,623	18.0	19.4	33.6	65.7	49.4	30.0
35-54	1,505	2,665	15.6	20.2	31.1	66.7	39.5	22.3
Male	946	1,663	17.7	22.7	37.8	69.3	38.6	23.6
Female	559	1,002	*12.1	*16.2	19.9	62.3	40.8	20.0
55+	741	1,346	*12.0	*16.6	20.0	50.9	29.8	*15.5
Male	467	876	*14.1	*19.9	25.6	55.0	29.8	*14.5
Female	274	470	*8.0	*10.6	—	43.1	29.8	*17.3

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 22:
Things done to reduce alcohol consumption among those who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total 15+	2,229	5,864	21.6	21.4	35.7	74.8	39.0	28.4
Male	1,280	2,290	25.9	24.4	42.3	77.7	35.6	30.1
Female	949	1,574	15.8	17.5	27.3	72.8	45.0	26.9
15-34	1,423	2,355	28.0	25.1	44.4	76.0	43.3	34.9
Male	779	1,371	33.4	28.3	50.3	77.7	37.2	37.9
Female	644	984	20.5	20.6	36.1	73.7	51.8	30.8
35-54	606	1,121	13.3	17.2	26.9	76.9	34.4	20.0
Male	375	670	*16.3	*19.8	35.4	80.1	35.0	19.9
Female	231	451	*8.9	*13.2	*14.1	71.9	53.5	21.7
55+	200	388	*7.9	*13.0	*12.3	70.5	29.6	14.4
Male	126	249	—	*15.4	*16.0	71.7	27.9	13.9
Female	74	139	—	—	—	68.3	*32.7	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 23:
Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	19.8	22.3	35.4	66.3	38.7	26.5
Male	2,700	4,799	23.2	25.7	41.7	69.6	35.6	27.6
Female	1,931	3,095	14.6	17.0	25.5	61.2	43.6	24.9
Less than secondary	1,463	2,327	26.9	28.4	35.7	64.2	38.3	29.6
Male	993	1,574	26.7	30.5	39.4	64.5	34.9	27.6
Female	470	754	27.4	23.8	27.8	63.7	45.5	33.7
Secondary completed	1,284	2,242	19.9	21.0	38.1	67.5	38.0	27.9
Male	720	1,318	26.1	24.6	46.6	72.3	35.2	31.2
Female	564	923	*10.9	*15.8	26.0	60.7	42.0	23.2
Some post-secondary								
non-university degree	1,125	1,935	18.5	23.3	39.0	70.6	41.6	26.8
Male	578	1,078	23.5	28.9	48.0	73.6	37.9	27.7
Female	547	856	*12.1	*16.2	27.6	66.8	46.2	25.6
University degree	699	1,252	*10.7	*14.3	28.1	67.5	40.5	20.7
Male	385	769	*12.2	*15.0	32.2	73.3	36.8	23.0
Female	314	483	*8.4	*13.1	*21.5	58.2	46.4	*17.1

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 24:
Things done to reduce alcohol consumption among those who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	2,229	5,864	21.6	21.4	35.7	74.8	39.0	28.4
Less than secondary	663	1,052	31.7	28.2	32.0	73.9	35.4	34.3
Secondary completed	642	1,179	21.4	20.9	40.7	79.5	39.3	29.9
Some post-secondary								
non-university degree	594	1,019	18.9	21.0	38.5	75.2	43.9	27.2
University degree	328	614	*10.5	12.8	31.0	72.7	39.2	19.8

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 25:
Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	19.8	22.3	35.4	66.3	38.7	26.5
Male	2,700	4,799	23.2	25.7	41.7	69.6	35.6	27.6
Female	1,931	3,095	14.6	17.0	25.5	61.2	43.6	24.9
<\$10,000	295	352	*24.8	*32.7	40.6	62.8	40.5	33.1
Male	146	184	*30.6	*38.0	*48.6	70.1	*40.6	*39.8
Female	149	169	*18.6	*27.0	*31.9	54.8	*40.4	*25.8
\$10,000-\$19,999	783	1,020	28.7	30.7	44.0	64.6	36.0	28.7
Male	426	546	*27.6	32.6	50.3	63.7	29.7	*23.6
Female	357	474	*29.9	*28.5	36.9	65.7	43.3	34.6
\$20,000-\$39,999	1,429	2,166	20.3	22.3	37.8	68.6	38.9	28.7
Male	888	1,383	24.0	24.7	44.0	72.0	37.1	28.2
Female	541	783	*13.8	*18.0	26.9	62.7	42.1	29.6
\$40,000-\$59,999	964	1,885	18.5	21.5	36.3	70.4	38.8	25.8
Male	593	1,212	23.6	25.8	43.3	74.7	33.8	28.0
Female	371	674	*9.2	*13.8	23.6	62.6	47.6	*21.7
\$60,000+	656	1,506	13.9	18.2	29.1	70.4	43.4	22.8
Male	396	963	*16.7	23.1	35.5	74.2	40.3	26.5
Female	260	543	*9.0	*9.6	*17.6	63.5	49.0	*16.2

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 26:

Things done to reduce alcohol consumption among those who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	2,229	5,864	21.6	21.4	35.7	74.8	39.0	28.4
<\$10,000	133	176	*32.8	*35.3	48.8	72.3	*35.5	41.8
\$10,000–\$19,999	354	456	32.3	25.5	46.6	75.7	40.0	30.9
\$20,000–\$39,999	682	1,024	21.8	19.8	37.0	78.3	35.1	28.2
\$40,000–\$59,999	455	927	20.1	22.1	32.6	79.2	38.7	29.1
\$60,000+	350	822	12.7	18.3	32.7	74.2	44.7	22.8

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 27:
Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	19.8	22.3	35.4	66.3	38.7	26.5
Male	2,700	4,799	23.2	25.7	41.7	69.6	35.6	27.6
Female	1,931	3,095	14.6	17.0	25.5	61.2	43.6	24.9
Manager/professional	1,002	1,674	14.4	18.5	31.3	69.0	41.3	24.0
Male	552	1,004	*16.8	21.2	36.9	72.4	37.2	25.3
Female	450	670	*10.6	*14.5	23.0	63.9	47.5	*22.0
Other white collar	972	1,695	16.9	21.3	36.5	69.2	45.3	26.9
Male	420	790	*20.2	24.2	42.0	72.3	42.7	29.5
Female	552	905	*14.1	*18.8	31.6	66.6	47.6	24.7
Blue collar	1,101	1,832	26.2	28.0	45.5	72.2	35.4	25.7
Male	1,001	1,671	26.8	28.7	47.2	73.0	34.3	25.9
Female	100	162	—	—	*27.4	63.2	*46.4	*23.9
Looking for work	164	239	*33.3	*38.0	46.9	70.7	*34.6	*34.7
Male	112	165	*30.4	*44.8	55.5	76.9	*37.7	*33.0
Female	52	74	—	—	—	*56.8	—	*38.4
Student	427	807	33.3	26.2	42.3	75.2	39.2	45.4
Male	231	472	40.1	29.5	48.9	74.5	33.8	47.0
Female	196	335	*23.7	*21.5	33.1	76.3	46.8	43.2
Keeping house	430	706	*13.7	*17.8	*23.9	52.2	39.5	*23.7
Male	16	31	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	414	676	*14.2	*17.8	*23.5	53.1	40.6	*23.6
Retired	414	693	*13.1	*16.6	*20.7	52.0	31.9	*15.5
Male	297	515	*14.6	*19.2	*25.7	54.3	*33.3	*16.8
Female	117	178	—	—	—	*45.4	—	—
Other	59	94	—	—	—	*56.7	—	—
Male	42	64	—	—	—	*52.8	—	—
Female	17	30	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 28:

Things done to reduce alcohol consumption among those who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	2,229	5,864	21.6	21.4	35.7	74.8	39.0	28.4
Manager/professional	489	805	13.2	16.1	29.6	73.1	41.9	20.6
Other white collar	502	918	18.4	20.3	38.0	78.6	48.7	29.4
Blue collar	535	864	27.7	27.0	45.9	80.0	33.1	28.2
Looking for work	78	106	*33.1	*31.4	49.4	72.2	*28.2	34.6
Student	335	659	35.9	27.4	42.8	78.1	39.0	46.4
Retired	105	196	—	—	—	73.6	*33.5	—
Keeping house	162	273	—	*15.4	*18.6	61.4	32.5	19.0
Other	18	30	—	—	—	*54.5	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 29:

Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	19.8	22.3	35.4	66.3	38.7	26.5
Male	2,700	4,799	23.2	25.7	41.7	69.6	35.6	27.6
Female	1,931	3,095	14.6	17.0	25.5	61.2	43.6	24.9
Married	2,399	4,418	14.0	18.6	29.7	62.8	38.2	20.8
Male	1,444	2,729	16.7	22.5	35.9	66.6	35.1	22.0
Female	955	1,689	*9.7	*12.1	19.7	56.7	43.2	18.8
Separated	210	292	*24.2	*29.2	*36.1	59.5	48.7	*32.0
Male	114	169	*31.4	*33.8	*41.6	61.5	*44.6	*33.6
Female	96	123	—	—	*28.6	*56.7	*54.4	*29.8
Divorced	298	413	*17.4	*27.9	35.8	65.7	44.5	*26.5
Male	144	198	—	*27.5	*46.9	74.6	*44.4	*23.3
Female	154	215	*16.1	*28.3	*25.6	57.5	*44.7	*29.5
Widowed	178	233	—	—	—	46.6	*26.4	—
Male	61	78	—	—	—	*43.7	—	—
Female	117	155	—	—	—	*48.0	—	—
Never married	1,545	2,536	30.9	28.4	47.1	75.1	38.7	36.9
Male	936	1,623	34.3	30.9	51.7	76.1	34.1	37.5
Female	609	913	24.8	23.8	39.0	73.2	47.0	35.9

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 30:

Things done to reduce alcohol consumption among those who quit or reduced their alcohol consumption in the year preceding the survey, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	2,229	5,864	21.6	21.4	35.7	74.8	39.0	28.4
Married	999	1,887	11.9	14.5	24.6	71.4	39.4	18.7
Separated	91	113	*25.8	*26.2	*35.4	75.2	*43.8	31.8
Divorced	122	149	—	*31.0	*41.5	77.5	*37.1	21.7
Widowed	42	60	—	—	—	79.5	—	—
Never married	975	1,654	34.0	28.9	49.5	80.4	39.9	41.0

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 31:

Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Total population	4,631	7,894	19.8	22.3	35.4	66.3	38.7	26.5
Male	2,700	4,799	23.2	25.7	41.7	69.6	35.6	27.6
Female	1,931	3,095	14.6	17.0	25.5	61.2	43.6	24.9
English	3,872	6,053	21.5	22.5	36.4	68.4	45.4	29.8
Male	2,227	3,584	25.4	25.3	42.4	70.8	41.9	31.1
Female	1,645	2,469	15.7	18.4	27.7	64.9	50.6	28.0
French	629	1,519	12.7	21.5	33.1	62.4	15.3	14.5
Male	397	1,016	*14.7	25.7	40.2	68.2	*15.1	*15.9
Female	232	503	*8.8	*13.0	*18.8	50.7	*15.9	*11.6
Other	76	207	*31.8	*31.7	*37.1	66.1	*34.8	*29.3
Male	54	154	*30.4	*38.6	*43.4	66.6	*33.0	*27.2
Female	22	53	—	—	—	*64.6	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 32:

Things ever done to reduce alcohol consumption, by whether or not current drinkers experienced an alcohol-related problem as a result of their alcohol use and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Whether or not had problem/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Skipped parties or other social events (%)	Avoided friends who drink heavily (%)	Went to bars/ taverns less often (%)	Limited number of drinks (%)	Changed beverage type (%)	Got involved in activities that did not involve drinking (%)
Never had a problem	2,524	4,527	15.0	15.3	29.2	66.3	37.3	22.3
Male	1,289	2,534	18.6	17.8	35.5	70.9	33.5	23.2
Female	1,235	1,993	10.4	12.1	21.0	60.2	42.4	21.1
Had a problem (ever)	1,551	2,507	28.8	32.4	47.6	82.2	42.7	34.1
Male	1,033	1,659	31.2	35.1	52.3	82.2	37.2	34.2
Female	518	848	24.1	27.0	38.5	82.1	53.6	34.0
Had a problem (in year preceding survey)	907	1,474	32.4	33.4	50.0	83.2	39.0	34.8
Male	605	973	35.5	35.9	54.3	81.3	33.8	35.0
Female	302	501	26.3	28.5	41.6	86.8	49.3	34.3

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

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Highlights

Part One: Public Opinion on Issues Related to Alcohol and Other Drug Use



Part Two: Additional Questions About Attitudes Towards Alcohol and Other Drug Policies



- For the most part, Canadians are satisfied with the current level of availability of alcohol (i.e., price and hours of operation).
- Canadians think that more emphasis should be placed on measures designed to limit alcohol and other drug consumption: server training to prevent serving drunks, government advertising, prevention and treatment programs and warning labels.
- In general, Canadians endorse increases in alcohol taxation, legal drinking age, government-sponsored advertising campaigns against alcohol and other drugs, measures to prevent sale of alcohol to drunk customers, alcohol and other drug education and prevention programs and treatment programs.
- For the most part, Canadians do not want alcohol to be sold in corner stores.
- Most Canadians want warning labels on alcoholic products.
- Most Canadians favour allowing sponsorship of sports events by alcohol companies.
- Slightly more than half of Canadians want possession of marijuana to be a criminal offence.
- Women tend to be slightly more supportive of measures designed to limit alcohol and other drug use.
- Canadians of all ages share similar opinions on many policies designed to reduce alcohol and other drug use. Attitudes towards decriminalization of marijuana and advertising of alcoholic products on television, however, vary by age.
- Canadians with higher incomes tend to favour less restrictive policies, but they are as likely as other Canadians to favour increasing access to educational, prevention and treatment programs.
- Homemakers and retired persons are most likely to favour policies that discourage consumption of alcohol and marijuana.
- English- and French-speaking Canadians share similar opinions on most policies designed to reduce alcohol and other drug use.
- Residents of all provinces are about equally likely to want an increase in taxes on alcohol, hours of operation of beer and liquor stores, efforts to prevent serving those who are drunk and alcohol and other drug education programs. There is variation among the residents of provinces as to whether they favour an increase in the legal drinking age, government advertising campaigns against drinking and treatment programs.
- Residents of British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta are most likely to favour relaxing restrictions on warning labels on alcoholic products, alcohol advertisements on television and alcohol-sponsored sports events.
- Widowed people favour the most restrictive policies. People who have never married favour the least restrictive policies. This relationship is not related to age, as there is no consistent relationship between age and attitudes towards these government policies.

- Canadians who are very religious are the most likely to favour an increase in every policy designed to reduce consumption of alcohol and other drugs and to support an increase in alcohol and other drug education and treatment programs.
- On almost every item, heavier drinkers are least in favour of discouraging consumption of alcohol and other drugs and increasing the availability of education or treatment programs.

Part Three: Beliefs Regarding Drinking in Different Situations



- There is considerable variation among Canadians, in general, concerning the situations in which heavy drinking is deemed appropriate: a man at a bar with friends (22%), at a party at someone else's home (19%), with friends at one's own home (18%), a woman at a bar with friends (16%), a couple having dinner at home (15%), getting together with people for sports or recreation (5%), getting together with friends after work (4%) and co-workers out for lunch (1%).
- In almost every setting, men are more tolerant of alcohol intoxication.
- In general, younger Canadians are much more tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in various social situations than are older Canadians.
- There is very little relationship between education and attitudes concerning the settings appropriate for heavy drinking.
- As income increases, Canadians are somewhat more tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in various social situations.
- For the most part, students are the most tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in social situations, followed by blue-collar workers, people looking for work, managers/professionals, other white-collar workers, homemakers and, finally, retired people.

- In general, never-married people are the most tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in social situations, followed by separated and divorced people, married people and, finally, widowed people.
- There is little difference in the attitudes of English-speaking Canadians and French-speaking Canadians concerning the settings appropriate for heavy drinking.
- There are few differences among people from various provinces in their attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated in various social situations. In general, people from western Canada and the Atlantic provinces (with the exception of New Brunswick) are the most tolerant. Residents of Quebec tend to be the least tolerant.
- There is a consistent tendency for people who are the most religious to have the least tolerance for people becoming intoxicated in various social situations.
- In general, people who had the most to drink during the week preceding the survey were the most tolerant towards people becoming intoxicated in almost any situation. As people drank less, they became more intolerant.

Part Four: Public Opinion About the Effectiveness of Treatment Programs Designed to Reduce Problems With Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse



- Forty-six percent of Canadians think that self-help programs, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, are very effective, whereas another 33% indicate that these programs are moderately effective.
- Approximately one-third of the population feel that emergency phone services are very effective, and another third feel they are moderately effective.
- Nearly one-quarter think that community prevention efforts are very effective, whereas 40% think these efforts are moderately effective.

- One out of five Canadians think that treatment by social workers and medical staff is very effective, and another 40% think that this treatment is moderately effective.
- Few people think that these programs are not effective at all.
- Nearly a third of Canadians do not have an opinion concerning the effectiveness of emergency phone services, community prevention efforts and treatment by social workers or medical staff.
- Attitudes concerning the effectiveness of treatment programs are similar for men and women.
- There is no relationship between age and the tendency to think these programs are not effective at all. Older people, however, tend to attribute less overall effectiveness to these programs, because they are more likely not to have an opinion.
- Attitudes concerning the effectiveness of treatment programs are similar for all education and income levels.
- There is considerable variation in opinion among people in different employment categories and marital status categories regarding the effectiveness of most treatment programs.
- There is hardly any variation in opinion between English- and French-speaking Canadians regarding the effectiveness of most treatment programs.
- Residents of Saskatchewan, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are more likely to feel that these treatment programs have at least some effectiveness. Residents of Ontario and British Columbia are least likely to feel they are effective.
- There is hardly any difference between people, based on the extent to which they claim to be religious, concerning their attitudes about effectiveness of treatment programs. However, people who are very religious are most likely to think that the programs are very effective, and people with no religion are least likely to think the programs are very effective.
- There is a tendency for a higher percentage of current drinkers to think that every treatment program is more effective, compared to lifetime abstainers or former drinkers.

Introduction

Attitudes concerning issues regarding alcohol and other drugs are important in the Canadian context, given that governments at all levels are involved in regulating the use of alcohol and other drugs.

This chapter examines public opinion on several issues related to alcohol and other drug use. It then focuses on public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, marijuana and other drugs. It also reports on beliefs concerning the consumption of alcohol in various social settings. Finally, the chapter focuses on attitudes of Canadians concerning the effectiveness of treatment programs for reduction of problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use.

Part One: Public Opinion on Issues Related to Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Definitions



The analysis in this section reports on public opinion regarding several issues related to alcohol and other drugs: taxes on alcohol, beer and liquor store hours, the legal drinking age, more server training to prevent serving drunks, government advertising against drinking, alcohol and other drug education programs and treatment programs (Q73 in Appendix B). People were asked whether they felt each policy should be increased, remain the same or be decreased. In this report, the answer "remain the same" is interpreted as implying that the respondent is satisfied with current policies.

General Findings



For the most part, Canadians are satisfied with the current level of availability of alcohol (i.e., price and hours of operation). They are, however, not satisfied with other measures designed to limit alcohol and

other drug consumption: server training, level of government advertising, availability of prevention and treatment programs and warning labels.

With the exception of beer and liquor store hours, the Canadians who are not satisfied want to see further restrictions rather than liberalization of policy (Table 1). Less than 6% of Canadians want to see a decrease in the legal drinking age, server training, government advertising against drinking, alcohol and other drug education programs and treatment programs.

In overview, nearly half of the population (46%) feel that taxes on alcoholic beverages should remain at the same level, 27% feel that they should be raised and 18% think that they should be decreased. The majority of Canadians (70%) believe that beer and liquor store hours should remain as they are, whereas 17% feel they should be decreased and 7% maintain that they should be extended. Half of the population (50%) believe that the legal drinking age should be raised, 45% believe that it should not be changed and only 3% feel that it should be lowered.

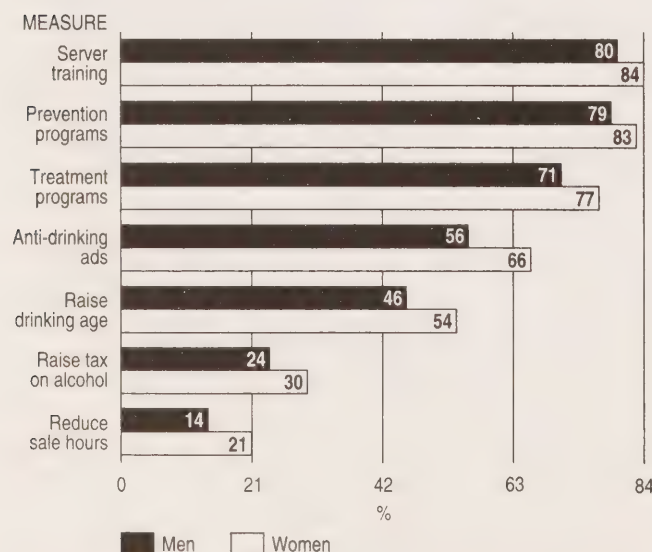
A large majority of Canadians believe that there should be increased activity in a number of areas: 82% believe that efforts to prevent the serving of intoxicated persons should be increased, 81% feel that alcohol and other drug education and prevention programs should be expanded and 74% believe that treatment programs should also be expanded. Most Canadians (61%) also think the government's advertising campaign against drinking and other drug use should be increased, 28% think it should continue to operate at the same level at least and 6% think it should be reduced.

Sex



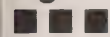
In general, women tend to be slightly more supportive than men of measures designed to limit alcohol and other drug use (Figure 1 and Table 1). For example, 66% of women think that the government's advertising campaign against drinking should be increased compared to 56% of men. Similarly, 77% of women

Figure 1:
Percentage of population that favours increased measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



think that drug and alcohol treatment programs should be expanded, compared to 71% of men. As well, 54% of women think that the legal age for consumption of alcohol should be increased, compared to 46% of men.

Age



Support for an increase in restrictions and education/treatment programs does not increase with age for every policy (Table 2). People 65 years of age and over are the most likely to be the strongest supporters of an increase in the following measures to discourage consumption: higher taxes on alcohol (33%), a higher legal drinking age (56%) and a decrease in hours of operation of beer and liquor stores (22%). People 65 years of age and over, however, are among the least likely to support measures such as an increase in treatment programs (65%), increased educational programs (73%) and more advertising campaigns against drinking (55%).

Although the youngest people also tend to fall at the extreme, they are not always the ones showing least support for measures designed to discourage drinking (Table 2). For example, people aged 15 to 19 years (28%) are more likely than people aged 20 to 24 years (19%) to favour an increase in taxes on alcohol. Similarly, people aged 15 to 19 years are more in favour of an increase in the government's advertising campaign against drinking (63%) and in treatment programs (79%) than are people just a few years older, aged 20 to 24 years (57% and 74%, respectively). They are also among the most likely to support an increase in both education (82%) and treatment (79%) programs.

In overview, opinions on the various issues discussed in the survey are not strongly related to age (Figure 2 and Table 2). There is only a 14 percentage point difference at most between people of different ages in support of changing any of these policies. The only exception is that few teenagers want the age of legal drinking to be raised: 25% of people aged 15 to 19 years think that the legal drinking age should be raised, compared to about 57% of those 35 years and over.

Education



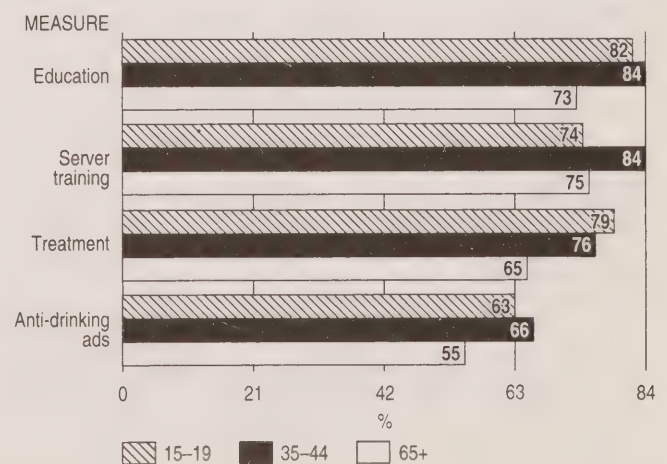
In general, opinions on the various issues discussed in the survey are not strongly related to level of education (Table 3). However, a higher percentage of people with low education (22%) support a decrease in the number of hours that beer and alcohol are available for sale compared to those with a university degree (11%). People with less than a secondary school education are eight percentage points more likely to support an increase in the legal drinking age than are people with a university degree. However, people with less than a secondary school education are seven percentage points less likely to support increased government advertising and more alcohol and other drug education programs than are people with a university degree.

Income



Opinions concerning the government's advertising campaign against drinking, level of alcohol and other drug education programs and availability of treatment programs are not strongly related to level of income (Table 4). The most variation in attitudes by income is for taxes on alcohol and beer and liquor store hours.

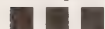
Figure 2:
Percentage of population that favours increased measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



For these policies, people with higher incomes are more satisfied with current policies and slightly more likely to favour loosening of restrictions. People with high household incomes of over \$60,000 (52%) are satisfied with the level of taxes on alcohol, compared to 35% of those with a household income under \$10,000. People with low household incomes of under \$10,000 (34%) are the most likely to want an increase in the level of taxes on alcohol, compared to 23% of people with a household income over \$60,000 (Figure 3).

Similarly, people with high household incomes are more likely to be satisfied with the hours of operation of beer and liquor stores: 78% of people with a household income over \$60,000 compared to 60% of those with a household income under \$10,000. As income increases, people are less likely to want a decrease in operating hours: a difference of 14 percentage points between people with household incomes over \$60,000 and under \$10,000.

Employment Status



There is variation by employment status in attitudes concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use (Table 5). Students deviate the most from the norm. Although government policies are not aimed specifically at students, some policies are more

relevant to younger people. As students are predominantly younger, they are differentially affected.

This is most evident in attitudes regarding the legal drinking age. At one extreme, students are the most satisfied (63%) and the least likely to want the drinking age increased (29%). At the other extreme, people who keep house and retired people are least satisfied (39% for homemakers and 34% for retired people) and are most likely to want the drinking age increased (57% for homemakers and 58% for retired people).

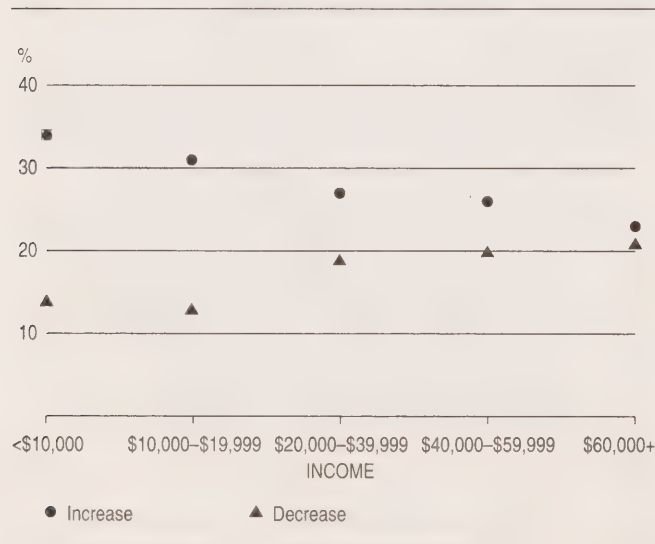
Students and retired people are also the most likely to disagree over whether treatment programs should be increased: students are 80% in favour and retired people are only 65% in favour of more support for treatment. They are also the most likely to disagree over whether alcohol and other drug education programs should be increased: students and white-collar workers other than managers/professionals are 84% in favour and retired people are 73% in favour. For both these programs, there is little difference by employment status as to whether these programs should be decreased. However, blue-collar workers and retired people are least likely to favour an increase.

Retired people (55%) and blue-collar workers (54%) are the least likely to favour an increase in government advertising. White-collar workers other than managers/professionals are the most likely to favour an increase in this direction (67%).

Retired people (32%) and homemakers (32%) are the most likely to favour an increase in taxes on alcohol and least likely to favour a decrease (13% for retired people and 11% for homemakers). This may be because they consume less alcohol than other people. Blue-collar workers are both least likely to favour an increase (22%) and most likely to favour a decrease (25%).

Homemakers (2%) and students (12%) again are the most likely to disagree on an increase in the hours of operation of beer and liquor stores. Homemakers are most likely to want these hours to decrease (23%) in comparison to managers/professionals (13%) and blue-collar workers (13%).

■ **Figure 3:**
Percentage of population that favours an increase or decrease in taxes on alcohol, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



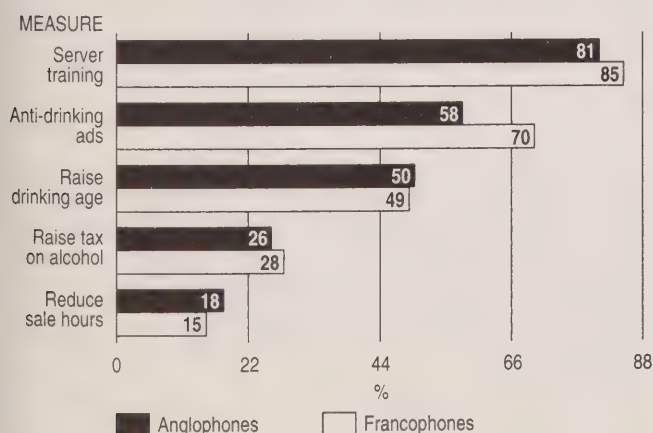
In summary, homemakers and retired people are most likely to favour policies that discourage consumption, whereas blue-collar workers and students are most likely to favour fewer restrictions. Retired people and blue-collar workers, however, are least likely to support additional expenditure on treatment and educational programs, whereas students, people looking for work, homemakers, managers/professionals and other white-collar workers are most likely to favour an increase in these programs. Most of the differences between groups, however, are moderate: differences of only ten or 15 percentage points between even the most extreme groups.

Language

English- and French-speaking Canadians tend to share the same opinions on the various issues discussed in the survey (Figure 4 and Table 6). The only exception is that English-speaking Canadians (58%) are less likely to favour an increase in the government's advertising campaign against drinking than are French-speaking Canadians (70%).

Because of the small numbers of respondents representing people who speak languages other than English or French, these are grouped together in one category. Given the diversity of people represented in this category, there is likely large subgroup variation.

Figure 4:
Percentage of population that favours increased measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989



People who speak languages other than English and French have some beliefs that are different from those of people who speak the two national languages. Compared to French-speaking Canadians (75%), people who speak languages other than English and French (55%) are less likely to be satisfied with the hours of operation of stores that sell beer and liquor, because people who speak other languages favour shorter hours (a difference of 11 percentage points). People who speak languages other than English and French (31%) are less likely to be satisfied with the legal drinking age than are people who speak English (45%) and French (48%). They are more likely to favour both an increase (54%) and a decrease (8%) in the legal drinking age.

People who speak languages other than English and French (70%) are less likely to favour an increase in server training than are Anglophones (81%) and Francophones (85%). People who speak languages other than French and English (57%) and Anglophones (58%) are less likely than Francophones (70%) to favour more advertising campaigns against drinking. There is very little difference between members of any of the language groups concerning their opinion of the availability of alcohol and other drug education programs and treatment programs.

In summary, differences in opinion on almost all these issues among people of different language groups are not large.

Region

The data also suggest that public opinion concerning government policy varies by province (Table 7). Some of this variation can be accounted for by the fact that people are responding to different policies, as the control and sale of alcoholic beverages are regulated by provincial governments.

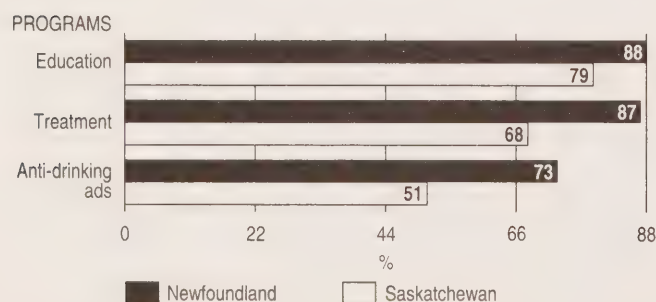
The largest variation by province is in attitudes concerning the legal drinking age. At one extreme, residents of Prince Edward Island are the most satisfied (54%) and the least likely to want the drinking age increased (37%). At the other extreme, residents of Alberta are least satisfied (37%) and are the most likely to want the drinking age increased (60%). Very few Canadians want to decrease the legal drinking age (3%).

In Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta, the legal drinking age is 18 years of age. All the other provinces allow people to legally consume alcohol at 19 years of age. More residents of Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta want the legal drinking age to increase from 18 than to stay the same. People in the provinces with a legal drinking age of 19 are, with only few exceptions, more likely to want the legal age to stay the same rather than to increase. The exceptions are Newfoundland and British Columbia.

There is also variation by province in attitudes concerning the government's advertising campaign against drinking. Residents of Saskatchewan are the most satisfied (34%), and residents of Newfoundland are the least satisfied (17%) (Table 7). Similarly, residents of Newfoundland (73%) are most likely to want an increase in government advertising, and residents of Saskatchewan are the least likely (51%) (Figure 5). Very few Canadians want to decrease the level of government advertising against drinking (6%).

With regard to availability of treatment programs, at one extreme are residents of Saskatchewan, who are the most satisfied (19%) and least likely to want more programs (68%). At the other extreme, residents of Newfoundland are least satisfied (8%) and are most likely to want more programs (87%) (Figure 5 and Table 7). The difference in proximity to treatment programs in the United States might contribute to these differences. Very few Canadians want to decrease the level of treatment programs (1%).

Figure 5:
Percentage of population in Newfoundland and Saskatchewan that favours increased expenditure for alcohol and other drug programs, age 15+, Canada, 1989



There is very little difference among the provinces with regard to wanting an increase in the hours of operation of beer and liquor stores. However, residents of Quebec are the most satisfied (75%) and least likely to want fewer hours (14%). At the other extreme, residents of Manitoba (61%) and Newfoundland (62%) are least satisfied and most likely to want a decrease in the hours of operation of these stores (28% for Newfoundland and 25% for Manitoba). Hours of sale for the purchase of alcoholic beverages are regulated by the liquor authorities in each province.

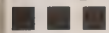
There is also very little difference among the provinces with regard to wanting an increase in taxes on alcohol. Some provinces, however, are more satisfied (Quebec, Alberta and Prince Edward Island) and others are less satisfied (Manitoba and Newfoundland). Manitoba (22%), Newfoundland (22%) and Ontario (22%) are most likely to want taxes to decrease, whereas New Brunswick (12%) and Quebec (13%) are least likely to want a decrease. Most people are unaware of the exact level of federal and provincial levies on alcohol and, therefore, are likely to have responded to the across-the-counter price of these products.

There is little variation by province in attitudes regarding server training and attitudes about the availability of alcohol and other drug education programs.

In summary, residents of all provinces are equally likely to want an increase in taxes on alcohol, hours of operation of beer and liquor stores, efforts to increase server training and alcohol and other drug education programs. There is variation among the residents of provinces as to whether they favour an increase in the legal drinking age, in the government's advertising campaign against drinking and in the availability of treatment programs.

Actual variation in programs by province may account for the tendencies of people in some provinces to appear to want more restrictive policy. For example, people living in Newfoundland tend to want higher government expenditure in policies to deter drinking and improve treatment compared to a tendency in the opposite direction in the Prairie provinces.

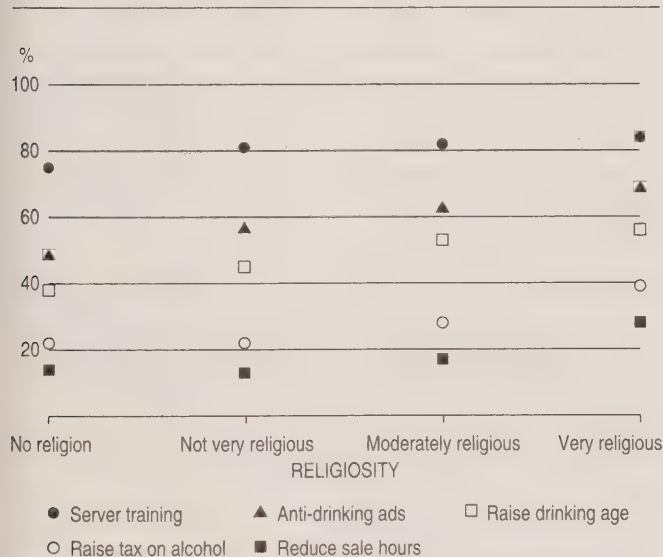
Religiosity



People who report that they are very religious are the most likely to favour an increase in policies designed to reduce consumption of alcohol and to support an increase in alcohol and other drug education and treatment programs (Figure 6 and Table 8). Support for increasing these measures decreases consistently among people who report less religious involvement and is the lowest for people with no religion.

In order of largest to smallest difference, people who are very religious are more likely to favour an increase than people with no religion in the following policies: the government's advertising campaign restricting drinking (69%, very religious; 49%, no religion), legal drinking age (56%, very religious; 38%, no religion), taxes on alcohol (39%, very religious; 22%, no religion), server training (84%, very religious; 75%, no religion), alcohol and other drug education programs (82%, very religious; 74%, no religion) and treatment programs (74%, very religious; 66%, no religion).

Figure 6:
Percentage of population that favours increased measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by religiosity, age 15+, Canada, 1989



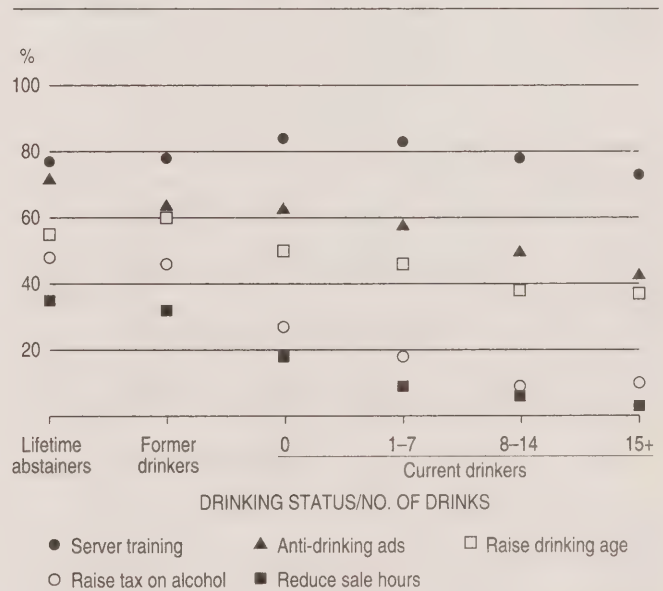
Drinking Status and Level of Consumption



There is a strong relationship between attitudes concerning some government policies relating to alcohol and other drugs and both the current drinking status of Canadians (i.e., lifetime abstainer, former drinker and current drinker) and the amount they consume (Figure 7 and Table 9). On almost every item, heavy drinkers are least in favour of discouraging consumption and increasing the availability of education or treatment programs. At the other extreme, lifetime abstainers, former drinkers and light drinkers are the most likely to support an increase in these measures.

This pattern is most evident in policies related to taxes on alcohol, hours of operation of beer and liquor stores and government advertising against drinking. In each of these cases, support for discouraging drinking by introducing further restrictions is strongest among lifetime abstainers and second strongest among former drinkers. Support for discouraging drinking through these measures is least for

Figure 7:
Percentage of population that favours increased measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



people who consumed more than 15 drinks in the week preceding the survey. For example, 48% of lifetime abstainers favour higher taxes, only 3% favour longer hours of operation of beer and liquor stores and 72% favour more advertising against drinking. By comparison, only 10% of the heaviest drinkers favour increased taxes, 21% favour longer hours of operation of beer and liquor stores and only 42% favour more advertising against drinking.

Support for additional education and treatment programs follows a similar pattern. The only exception is that support for more programs is highest among the lightest drinkers and then lifetime abstainers. As consumption increases, people are less likely to support an increase in either education or treatment programs. Thus, 65% of people who had 15 drinks in the week preceding the survey favour more treatment programs, compared to 78% of the lightest drinkers. Similarly, 72% of the heaviest drinkers favour more alcohol and other drug education programs, compared to 84% of the lightest drinkers.

Light drinkers (84%) are also the most likely to support an increase in server training, a difference of seven percentage points from lifetime abstainers and 11 percentage points from the heaviest drinkers.

Former drinkers (60%) are the most likely to support an increase in the legal drinking age, six percentage points more than lifetime abstainers. Support for this measure again decreases as consumption increases. Only 37% of the heaviest drinkers support this move.

Drinking status makes very little difference in attitudes towards loosening restrictions imposed by these policies. The only exceptions are attitudes towards taxes on alcohol and hours of operation of beer and liquor stores. By comparison to lifetime abstainers, the heaviest drinkers are much more likely to favour a decrease in taxes (47%, for a difference of 43 percentage points) and less likely to favour a decrease in hours of operation (3%, for a difference of 32 percentage points).

In summary, there are much sharper differences in some areas than others in attitudes concerning support for more restrictive policies between people based on their current drinking status. In order of largest to smallest, the difference between lifetime

abstainers and the heaviest drinkers is 38 percentage points for increased taxes on alcohol, 32 percentage points for a decrease in the hours of operation of beer and liquor stores, 30 percentage points for more government advertising campaigns encouraging reduction in drinking, 18 percentage points for a higher legal drinking age, 11 percentage points for more treatment programs, ten percentage points for more alcohol and other drug education programs and, finally, four percentage points for increased efforts to prevent liquor being served to drunken customers.

Summary



There is considerable difference in the overall extent of support registered by subgroups of Canadians regarding the various policy issues. Attitudes regarding decreasing the legal drinking age have the largest variation for most of the characteristics considered above. The least variation for the most characteristics is for increased efforts to prevent serving drunken customers and for more government-sponsored education programs.

The most variation in attitudes regarding increased taxes on alcohol is among people of different drinking statuses and religious involvement. Drinking status followed by religiosity and income are associated with the most variation in attitudes regarding decreasing the hours of operation of stores that sell alcoholic products. Drinking status, language spoken and age have the most variation in attitudes regarding server training. Drinking status followed by province and religiosity are related to the most variation in attitudes towards advertising against drinking. The characteristics associated with the most variation in attitudes regarding the legal drinking age are age and employment status. Level of education and employment status are associated with the most variation in attitudes regarding more education programs against drinking or taking drugs. Finally, province of residence followed by employment status and age are the characteristics related to most variation in attitudes regarding more treatment programs.

Part Two: Additional Questions About Attitudes Towards Alcohol and Other Drug Policies

Definitions



The analysis in this section reports on public opinion regarding programs designed to reduce problems with alcohol and other drugs: availability in corner stores, warning labels about possible health hazards on alcoholic beverages, banning alcohol advertisements on television, prohibiting wine/liquor/beer companies from sponsoring sporting or cultural events and whether the possession of marijuana should be criminal. People responded yes or no to questions on these issues (Q74, Q75, Q76, Q77, Q79 in Appendix B).

General Findings



Less than one-quarter of Canadians (23%) think that alcoholic beverages should be available in corner stores, whereas 74% indicate opposition to such a policy (Table 10). Nearly three-quarters of the population (74%) feel that alcoholic beverages should have warning labels about possible health hazards, whereas 23% disagree.

The population is split on whether the government should prohibit wine, liquor and beer advertising on television: 51% think that such advertisements should be prohibited, whereas 44% believe that they should not be prohibited. Canadians are less enthusiastic about prohibiting wine, liquor and beer companies from sponsoring sporting or cultural events: 33% agree with such a prohibition, 59% do not. As well, 54% of Canadians believe that a person should have a criminal record if caught with cannabis, whereas 35% disagree.

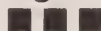
Sex



Women tend to be more supportive of measures designed to limit alcohol and other drug use (Figure 8 and Table 10). For example, 83% of women think that corner stores should not sell alcohol, compared to 64% of men. Moreover, 80% of women think that alcoholic beverages should have warning labels, compared to 69% of men. Further, 58% of women think that the

government should ban alcohol advertising on television, compared to 43% of men. Finally, 40% of women think that wine, liquor and beer companies should be prohibited from sponsoring sporting or cultural events, compared to 26% of men.

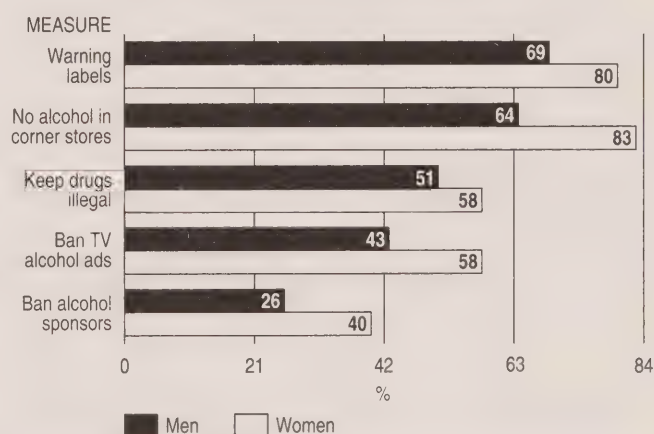
Age



There is a strong relationship between age and attitudes towards some alcohol and other drug policy issues presented in Table 11. The relationship between age and support for increased restrictions, however, is consistently positive for only two issues. The tendency to support banning alcohol advertisements on television increases almost consistently with age, from 37% for people 19 years of age and under to 58% for people 65 years of age and over. Similarly, support for banning alcohol-sponsored events increases with age, from 25% for people between 20 and 24 years to 38% for people 65 years of age and over.

The youngest people (aged 15 to 19) are among the most in favour of prohibiting sale of alcohol in corner stores (80%), insisting on warning labels (84%)

Figure 8:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to deter alcohol and other drug use, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



and maintaining the possession of marijuana a criminal offence (71%). They are, however, more likely to favour not banning alcohol ads on television (59%) and not banning alcohol-sponsored events (66%). The strongest support for keeping marijuana possession a criminal offence comes from people 19 years of age and under (71%), compared to Canadians aged 25 to 44, only half (49%) of whom support the continuation of criminal sanctions (Figure 9). There is less difference between age groups in areas such as support for availability of alcohol in corner stores and support for warning labels on alcoholic products (Table 11).

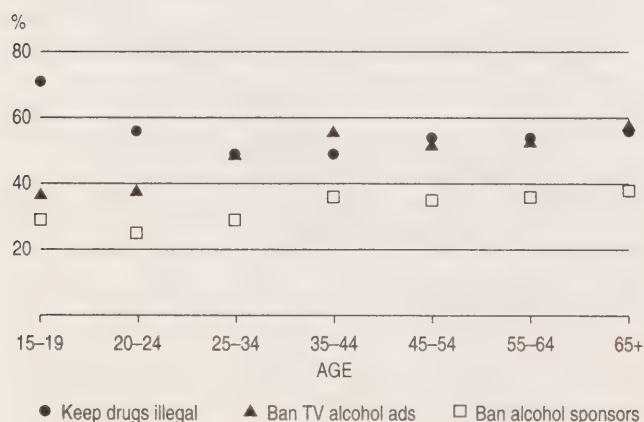
In summary, people's attitudes towards some alcohol and other drug policies are dependent on their age, but young people are not necessarily the most in favour of looser restrictions.

Education



There is some tendency for people with less education to favour more restrictive policies concerning some alcohol- and other drug-related issues (Table 12). People with less than a secondary school education are less likely than people with a university degree to favour selling alcohol in corner stores (19% vs. 31%); more likely to favour warning labels on alcohol products (80% vs. 67%); more likely to favour banning alcohol advertisements on television (54% vs. 50%);

Figure 9:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to deter alcohol and other drug use, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

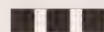


and more likely to favour bans on alcohol-sponsored events (37% vs. 29%).

This difference cannot be attributed to the association between lower levels of education and increased age, because people 65 years of age and over feel much the same way as do people between 45 and 64 years of age on most of these items.

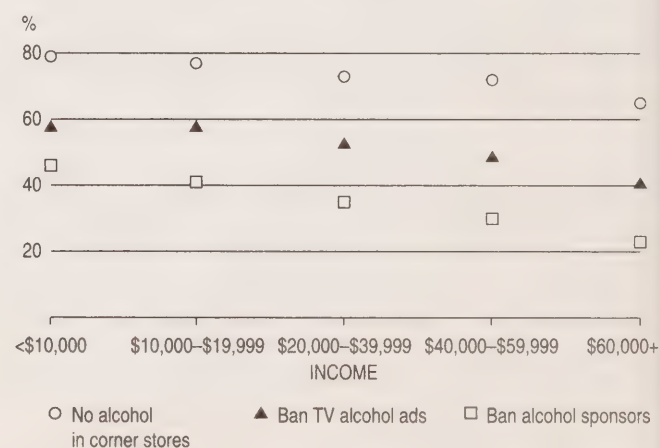
There is a very strong direct relationship between level of education and attitudes towards the decriminalization of marijuana possession. Twenty-four percent of people with less than a secondary school education think that possession of marijuana should not be a criminal offence, compared to 53% of people with a university degree.

Income



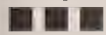
People with high household incomes are much more likely to favour less restrictive policies than people with low household incomes (Figure 10 and Table 13). Only 15% of people with a household income of less than \$10,000 feel that alcohol should be sold in corner stores, compared to 33% of the highest income earners, those with household incomes over \$60,000. Only 15% of low-income people say alcoholic beverages should not have warning labels, compared to

Figure 10:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



30% of high-income earners. Fifty-eight percent of people with a low income say alcohol advertisements should be banned from television, compared to 42% of the highest income earners. Only 46% of low-income people say that alcohol-sponsored events should be prohibited, compared to 23% of high-income earners. One-quarter (24%) of people with a low income say that possession of marijuana should not be criminal, compared to 47% of the highest income earners.

Employment Status



On almost every issue, homemakers and retired people are most likely to favour policies that discourage consumption of alcohol and marijuana (Table 14). Students, however, are the most likely to favour keeping possession of marijuana a criminal offence: 63% of students compared to 46% of managers/professionals.

Blue-collar workers and managers/professionals favour the least restrictions on almost every issue. Here, too, students are the main exception. Students (39%) are least likely to favour banning alcohol advertisements on television, whereas homemakers are the most supportive of this policy (66%).

A comparison of people in different employment categories by looking at those most likely to favour more versus less restrictive policies shows some large contrasts. There is a 21 percentage point difference between homemakers (11%) and blue-collar workers (32%) regarding support for selling alcohol in corner stores. The difference is also 21 percentage points regarding support for banning alcohol-sponsored events. There is a 16 percentage point difference between the views of homemakers (83%) and managers/professionals (67%) on support for warning labels on alcohol products (Figure 11). The views of students are very similar to those of homemakers on this issue (Figure 11). There is a 17 percentage point difference between students (63%) and managers/professionals (46%) regarding support for keeping possession of marijuana a criminal offence (Figure 11). Again, homemakers and students share very similar views on this issue. The views of students (39%) and homemakers (66%) are the most divergent on support for banning alcohol advertisements on television.

The gender composition of some of these categories is probably relevant. Whereas the category homemakers is almost exclusively female, more men are represented in the categories managers/professionals and blue-collar workers.

In summary, there is considerable variation by employment status regarding public opinion regarding some alcohol and other drug policies. Homemakers and retired people tend to favour the most restrictive policies, and managers/professionals and blue-collar workers tend to favour the least restrictions.

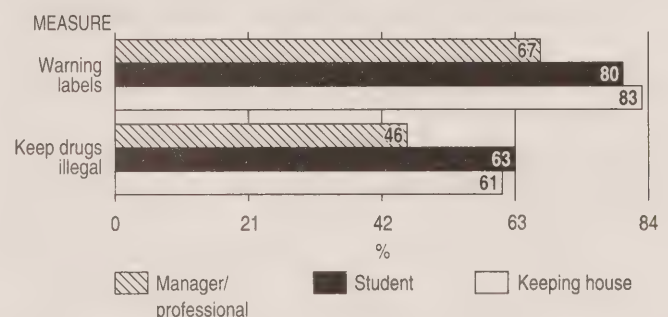
Marital Status



There is a strong relationship between marital status and attitudes concerning alcohol and other drug policies for some of the items in Table 15. The only exception is the similarity in attitudes for people in all marital status categories on whether alcohol should have warning labels (Figure 12). There is only a six percentage point difference between the people who most agree (78% of separated people) and people who least agree (72% of divorced people) on this issue.

Widowed people consistently favour the most restrictive policies. People who have never been married consistently favour the least restrictive policies. Among divorced people, only 45% feel possession of marijuana should be a criminal offence, compared to about 54% of people in all other marital status categories.

Figure 11:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to deter alcohol and other drug use, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



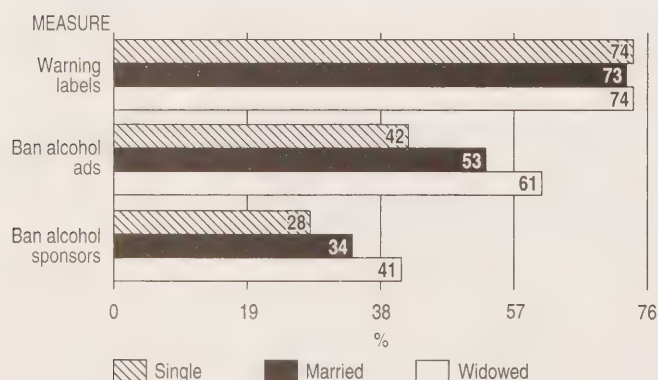
A comparison of people with different marital status by looking at those most likely to favour more versus less restrictive policies shows some interesting contrasts. Widowed people (61%) are 19 percentage points more likely to favour bans on alcohol ads on television than are people who have never been married (42%) (Figure 12). As well, only 11% of widowed people support selling alcohol in corner stores, compared to about 24% of people in other marital status categories. Finally, widowed people (41%) are 13 percentage points more likely to support banning alcohol-sponsored events than are never-married people (28%) (Figure 12).

In overview, married people tend to be near the middle category on most items. Separated people are average or above average in favouring restrictions on warning labels, banning alcohol-sponsored events and possession of marijuana. Divorced people are average or above average in favouring restrictions on banning alcohol ads on television and banning alcohol-sponsored events.

Language

French-speaking and English-speaking Canadians share similar views on the issues of selling alcohol in corner stores, warning labels on alcohol products and decriminalization of marijuana possession (Table 16). Canadians who speak other languages also have similar views on the first two issues but are less likely to favour decriminalization of marijuana possession.

Figure 12:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



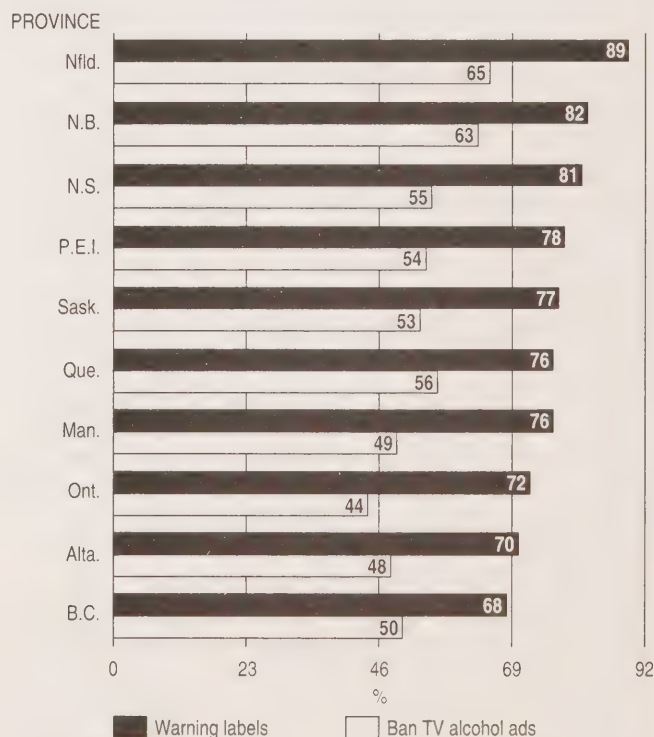
English-speaking Canadians are least likely to support a government ban on alcohol advertisements on television (48%) and alcohol-sponsored events (29%).

Region

The data also suggest that public opinion concerning alcohol and other drug policies varies by province (Table 17). Some of this variation can be accounted for by the fact that provincial regulations are different.

There is substantial provincial variation in attitudes regarding banning alcohol advertisements on television (Figure 13). At one extreme, 65% of residents of Newfoundland favour banning these advertisements. At the other extreme, only 44% of the residents of Ontario support these bans.

Figure 13:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Advertising of wine and beer is permitted by federal regulation on radio and television. The federal government does not permit advertising of spirits that contain over 7% alcohol. Each province passes its own legislation on broadcast and print advertising and must act within the federal regulations for radio and television advertising.

With the exception of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, print and broadcast advertising is permitted for beer and wine in all provinces, under regulated conditions. In both of these provinces, the majority of people favour a ban (54% in Prince Edward Island and 63% in New Brunswick). The majority of residents of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia also support such a ban. Prohibitions on broadcast and print advertising in British Columbia were removed in 1982 and 1983, respectively.

There is also variation by province in attitudes regarding whether alcohol products should have warning labels (Figure 13). Again, residents of Newfoundland (89%) are the most likely to favour warning labels, whereas only 68% of the residents of British Columbia and 70% of the residents of Alberta support warning labels.

The provinces array themselves in a similar pattern regarding government bans on alcohol-sponsored sports events. On this issue, residents of Newfoundland (43%), Quebec (42%) and New Brunswick (40%) are the most likely to favour banning alcohol-sponsored sports events. Less than 33% of the residents of all the other provinces support this ban. Residents of Alberta (28%), Ontario (28%) and British Columbia (29%) are the least likely to support banning alcohol-sponsored sports events.

On the issue of alcohol availability in corner stores, the residents of provinces at the extremes on other issues find themselves sharing similar attitudes. Residents of Newfoundland (26%), British Columbia (26%), Ontario (25%), Alberta (24%), Quebec (22%) and New Brunswick (21%) are most in favour of selling alcohol in corner stores. Residents of Nova Scotia (18%), Prince Edward Island (16%), Manitoba (15%) and Saskatchewan (15%) are less in favour. Beer and wine are offered for sale in corner stores in Quebec, and corner stores in Newfoundland sell beer.

None of the other provinces allows corner stores to sell any alcoholic beverages.

There is considerable variation by province regarding criminal sanctions for marijuana possession. Residents of Newfoundland (68%) are most in favour of keeping possession of marijuana a criminal offence. At the other extreme, 50% of residents of Quebec, 51% of residents of British Columbia and 53% of residents of Ontario are in favour of this policy.

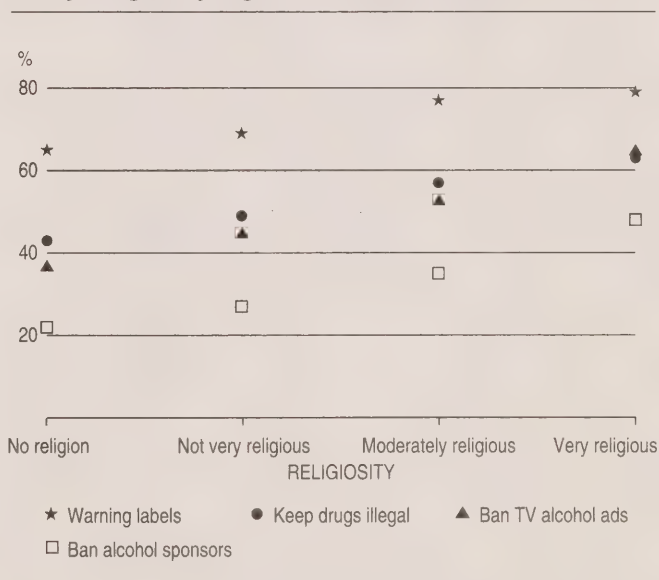
In summary, residents of Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island are more likely to be conservative on these issues. Residents of British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta are more likely to be in favour of relaxing these restrictions.

Religiosity



People who are very religious are the most likely to favour an increase in every policy designed to reduce consumption of alcohol and marijuana in Table 18. Support for increasing these measures decreases consistently as people become less religious and is the lowest for people with no religion (Figure 14).

Figure 14:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to deter alcohol and other drug use, by religiosity, age 15+, Canada, 1989



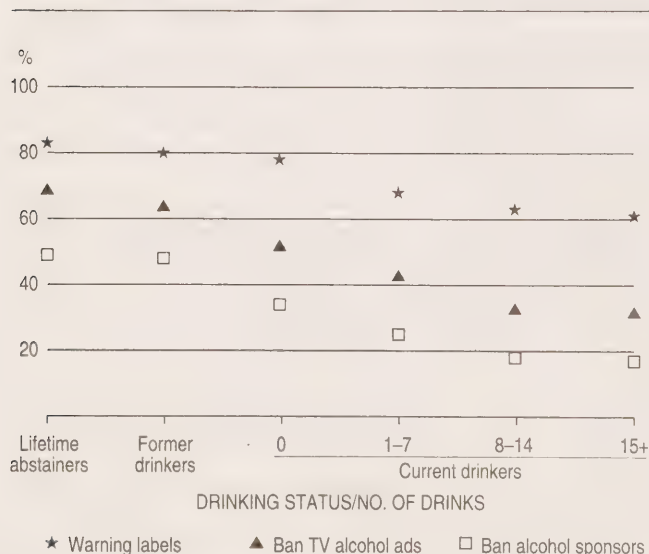
In order of largest to smallest difference, people who are very religious are likely to favour more restrictions than people with no religion for the following policies: banning alcohol advertisements on television (65%, very religious; 37%, no religion), banning alcohol-sponsored events (48%, very religious; 22%, no religion), keeping possession of marijuana a criminal offence (63%, very religious; 43%, no religion), limiting availability of alcohol in corner stores (79%, very religious; 62%, no religion) and including warning labels on alcohol products (80%, very religious; 65%, no religion).

Drinking Status and Level of Consumption



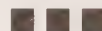
There is a strong relationship between public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues and both the current drinking status of Canadians and the amount they consumed in the week preceding the survey (Table 19). On every issue, support for less restrictive policies increases as people consume more alcohol. Lifetime abstainers, former drinkers and light drinkers (in that order) are least likely to support less restrictive measures (Figure 15).

Figure 15:
Percentage of population that favours further measures to reduce alcohol consumption, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Only 9% of lifetime abstainers say alcohol should be sold in corner stores, compared to 54% of heavy drinkers who consumed over 15 drinks in the week preceding the survey. Only 12% of lifetime abstainers say that alcoholic beverages should not have warning labels, compared to 37% of heavy drinkers. One-quarter (26%) of lifetime abstainers say alcohol advertisements should not be banned from television, compared to 63% of heavy drinkers. Only 38% of lifetime abstainers say alcohol-sponsored events should not be prohibited, compared to 78% of heavy drinkers. One-fifth (18%) of lifetime abstainers say possession of marijuana should not be criminal, compared to 57% of heavy drinkers.

Summary



There is considerable difference in the overall amount of variation in attitudes registered by subgroups of Canadians regarding the various policy issues. Attitudes regarding decriminalization of marijuana possession and advertising of alcohol on television tend to have the largest variations between groups. The least variation for the most characteristics is for attitudes on warning labels.

In order of their relationship to the tendency of Canadians to agree with each other on social policy issues, the characteristics producing the least agreement (i.e., most variability) are drinking status and amount of alcohol consumed in the week preceding the survey. Age and degree of religiosity also seem to contribute substantially to differences among Canadians in their support of alcohol and other drug policies.

Part Three: Beliefs Regarding Drinking in Different Situations

Definitions

All respondents were asked about their attitudes or beliefs concerning alcohol consumption in eight different situations: a) at a party at someone else's home; b) for a man out at a bar with friends; c) for a woman out at a bar with friends; d) for a couple having dinner at home; e) for co-workers out to lunch; f) with friends at your home; g) when getting together with friends after work before going home; and h) when getting together with people for sports events or recreation (Q51 in Appendix B). Specifically, respondents were instructed to indicate whether they felt there should be no drinking or if a person should feel free to consume one or two drinks, enough to feel the effects or enough to get drunk sometimes. In this report, the last two categories are combined into one and renamed "enough to feel the effects."

General Findings

Most Canadians think it is not appropriate to drink enough to feel the effects in any of the above situations. However, varying percentages think it is appropriate in different situations: a man at a bar with friends (22%), at a party at someone else's home (19%), with friends at one's own home (18%), a woman at a bar with friends (16%), a couple having dinner at home (15%), getting together with people for sports or recreation (5%), getting together with friends after work (4%) and co-workers out for lunch (1%) (Table 20).

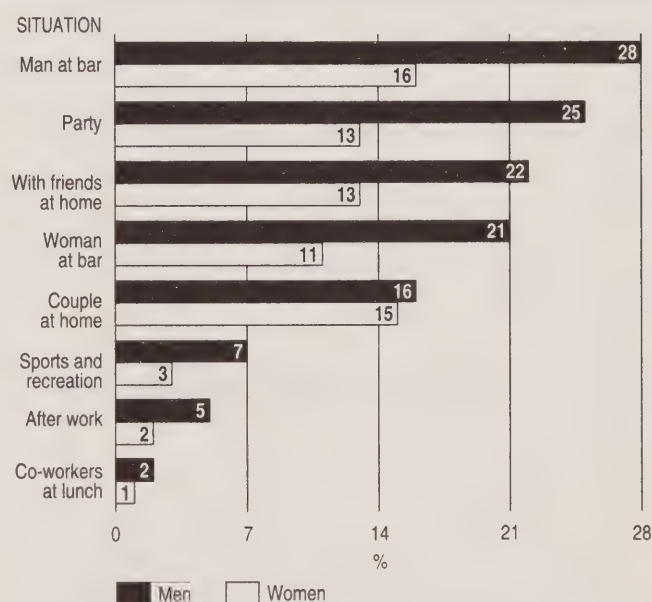
Sex

There is a consistent tendency for men to be more tolerant of people drinking enough to feel the effects in almost every situation (Figure 16 and Table 20). About one-quarter of men think it is appropriate for people to drink enough to feel intoxicated for a man out at a bar with friends (28%), at a party at someone else's home (25%) or with friends at one's own home (22%). By contrast, between 13% and 16% of women share these opinions. The situations with little or no

differences in attitudes between women and men are for a couple having dinner at home, co-workers out for lunch, friends getting together after work and people out for sports or recreation. Fewer people of both sexes tolerate drinking enough to feel the effects on these occasions.

There is some evidence that men are more tolerant of drinking by both men and women. Thus, 21% of men feel that it is acceptable for a woman to drink enough to feel the effects when she is at a bar with friends, but only 11% of women feel the same way. By contrast, 28% of men and 16% of women think that it is acceptable for a man to drink enough to feel the effects when he is at a bar with friends. Both women and men are less tolerant of women drinking enough to feel the effects compared to men.

Figure 16:
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989



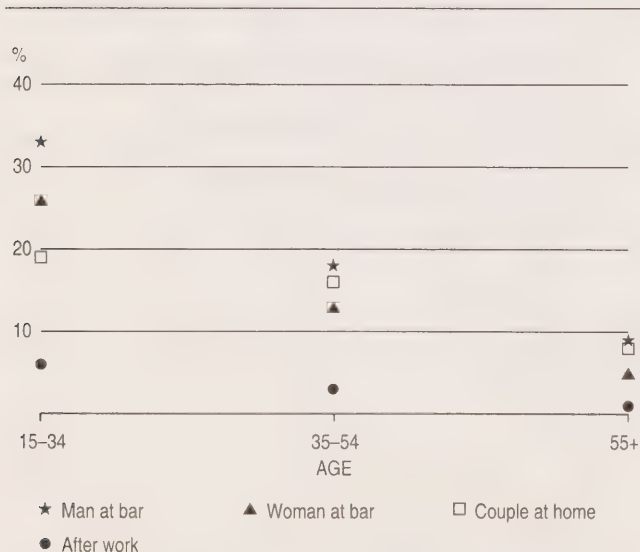
Age



There is a strong relationship between age and attitudes concerning situations in which heavy drinking is deemed appropriate. In general, younger Canadians are more tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in various social situations than are older Canadians (Table 20). The only exception is a low tolerance by people of all ages for co-workers becoming intoxicated at lunch. The biggest differences between Canadians of different ages are for attitudes concerning drinking enough to feel the effects by a man at a bar with friends (approval for 33% of people 15 to 34 years vs. 9% of those 55 years and over), at a party at someone else's home (28% of people 15 to 34 years vs. 7% of those 55 years and over), by a woman at a bar with friends (26% of people 15 to 34 years vs. 5% of those 55 years and over), with friends at one's own home (26% of people 15 to 34 years vs. 6% of those 55 years and over) and by a couple having dinner at home (19% of people 15 to 34 years vs. 8% of those 55 years and over) (Figure 17).

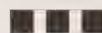
The relationship between age and attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated is almost the same for both men and women, although the differ-

■ **Figure 17:**
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



ences between younger and older people are usually more pronounced for men than for women (Table 20).

Education



In general, there is very little relationship between education and attitudes concerning who feels that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations. Canadians with a high-school diploma and those with some post-secondary school education and non-university degree are only slightly more likely than other Canadians to be more tolerant of intoxication in five of the eight situations in Table 21. The sharpest difference between those without a high-school diploma and those with a university degree is for a couple having dinner at home (11 percentage points). These patterns are slightly more pronounced for men than for women.

Income



As income increases, Canadians are somewhat more tolerant of people being intoxicated in five of the eight situations described in Table 22: for men at a bar with friends, at a party at someone else's home, for women at a bar with friends, with friends at one's own home and a couple having dinner at home (Figure 18). The percentage of people in households earning less than \$10,000 who are tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in these five situations consistently falls between 11% and 18%. The percentage of people in households earning over \$60,000 who are tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in these five situations consistently falls between 20% and 27%. The difference between low- and high-income people is close to nine percentage points in each of these situations.

The relationship between income and men's attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated is more similar to the general norm than for women. Income differences virtually disappear for women, except for attitudes concerning couples becoming intoxicated while having dinner at home. In this situation, high-income females resemble high-income males and are 11 percentage points more likely than low-income women to tolerate people becoming intoxicated.

Employment Status

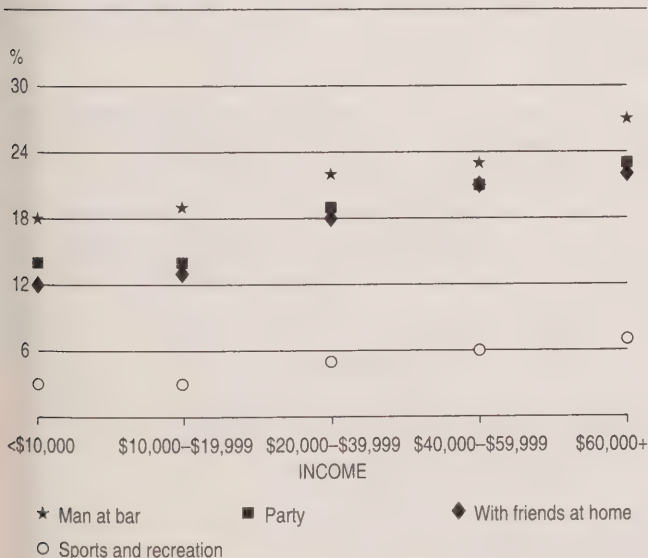


There are considerable differences among people in various employment categories in their attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated in five of the eight social situations described in Table 23 (Figure 19). For the most part, students are the most tolerant, followed by blue-collar workers, other white-collar workers, homemakers and, finally, retired people. There is very little difference between employed people, *per se*, and their attitudes concerning becoming intoxicated.

The biggest differences between students and retired people are for attitudes concerning becoming intoxicated for men at a bar with friends (34% of students vs. 8% of retired people), at a party at someone else's home (29% of students vs. 6% of retired people), for women at a bar with friends (27% of students vs. 5% of retired people) and with friends at one's own home (25% of students vs. 5% of retired people).

The relationship between employment status and people's attitudes concerning situations appropriate

Figure 18:
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989



for people to become intoxicated is almost the same for both men and women, although the differences in attitudes for people in different employment categories are somewhat more pronounced for men than for women (Table 23).

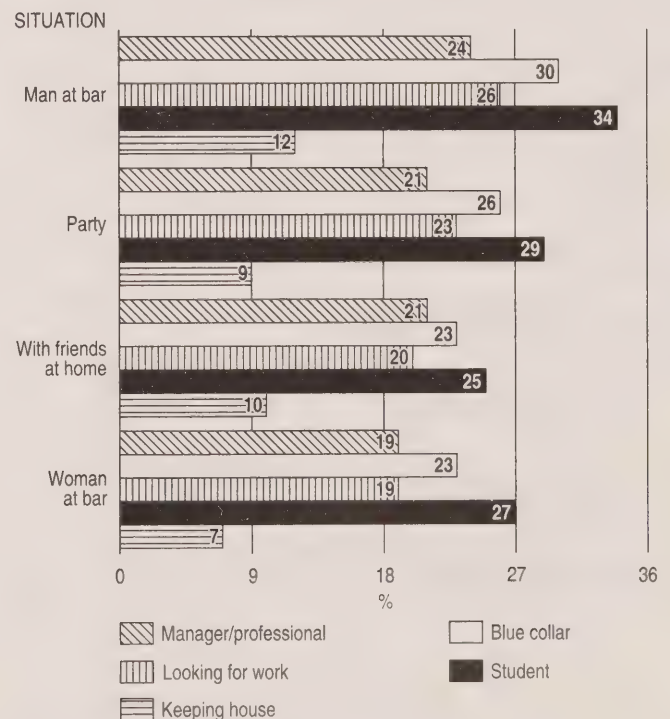
Marital Status



There are considerable differences among people of various marital statuses in their attitudes concerning people drinking enough to feel the effects in various social situations. In general, single (never married) people are the most tolerant, followed by separated and divorced people, married people and, finally, widowed people (Table 24).

The biggest differences between never-married and widowed Canadians are for attitudes concerning becoming intoxicated for men at a bar with friends

Figure 19:
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



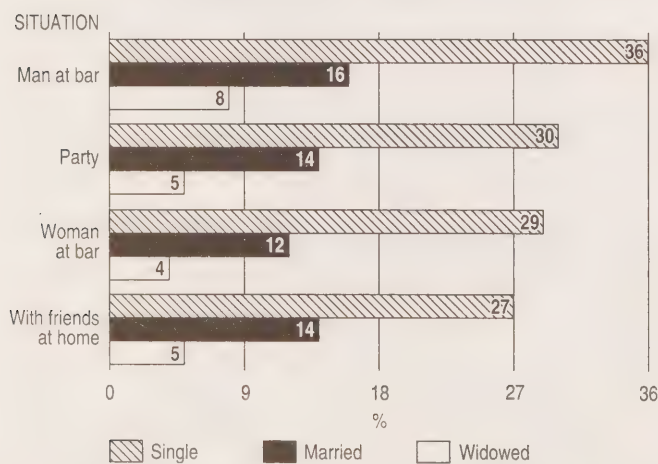
(28 percentage points), at a party at someone else's home (25 percentage points), for women at a bar with friends (25 percentage points) and with friends at one's own home (22 percentage points) (Figure 20). Never more than 8% of widowed people think that it is appropriate to drink enough to feel the effects in any of these situations. By contrast, at least 27% of single people condone drinking enough to feel the effects in these situations.

The relationship between marital status and people's attitudes concerning situations appropriate for drinking enough to feel intoxicated is almost the same for men and women. The differences in attitudes for people of different marital statuses, however, are somewhat more pronounced for men than for women (Table 24).

Language

This is very little difference in the attitudes of English-speaking Canadians and French-speaking Canadians concerning the situations in which it is appropriate to drink enough to feel the effects (Table 25). A tendency for English-speaking Canadians to be somewhat more tolerant of people becoming intoxicated is evident only for attitudes concerning

Figure 20:
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



people at a party at someone else's home (22% of Anglophones vs. 11% of Francophones), men at a bar with friends (25% of Anglophones vs. 16% of Francophones) and women at a bar with friends (19% of Anglophones vs. 11% of Francophones). This pattern is similar for both men and women.

Region

There are few differences among people from various provinces in their attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated in various social situations. In general, people from western Canada and the Atlantic provinces (with the exception of New Brunswick) are the most tolerant (Table 26). Residents of Quebec are the least tolerant concerning people becoming intoxicated in four of the eight situations listed in Table 26.

The biggest differences in attitudes between the residents of the most and least tolerant provinces are as follows: at a party at someone else's home (British Columbia 24% and Quebec 11%); men at a bar with friends (Newfoundland/Nova Scotia 28% and Quebec 16%), women at a bar with friends (British Columbia/Alberta 23% and Quebec 11%) and a couple at home (Quebec 18% and Prince Edward Island 7%). There is hardly any variation by province for attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated at sports or recreational events, for co-workers becoming intoxicated at lunch or after work and becoming intoxicated with friends at one's own home.

Religiosity

There is a consistent tendency for people who are the most religious to have the least tolerance for people becoming intoxicated in various social situations (Table 27). The only exception is attitudes about co-workers becoming intoxicated at lunch. As virtually no one condones this behaviour, there is no variation by religiosity.

The differences between people with no religion and very religious people are greatest for attitudes concerning becoming intoxicated for men at a bar with friends (25 percentage points), at a party at someone else's home (23 percentage points), for women at a bar with friends (22 percentage points) and with friends at one's own home (18 percentage

points) (Figure 21). The percentage of people with no religion who are tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in these situations consistently falls between 26% and 33%. By contrast, only about 8% of very religious people are tolerant of people becoming intoxicated in these situations.

The relationship between religiosity and attitudes concerning people becoming intoxicated is almost the same for both men and women, although the differences tend to be more pronounced for men (Table 27). There is no difference between women who are more or less religious concerning attitudes regarding becoming intoxicated when friends get together after work and when people get together for sports or recreation.

Drinking Status and Level of Consumption

In general, people who were the most tolerant of others becoming intoxicated in almost any situation were the people who had drunk the most in the week preceding the survey (Table 28). As people drank less, they became more intolerant (Figure 22). Lifetime

abstainers followed by former drinkers were the least tolerant.

The biggest differences between heavy drinkers and lifetime abstainers are for attitudes concerning becoming intoxicated for people at a party at someone else's home (48 percentage points), for men at a bar with friends (46 percentage points), with friends at one's own home (46 percentage points), for women at a bar with friends (39 percentage points) and for a couple having dinner at home (26 percentage points). Never more than 5% of lifetime abstainers tolerate people becoming intoxicated in these situations. By contrast, about 50% of heavy drinkers tolerate people becoming intoxicated at a party at someone else's home, among men at a bar with friends or with friends at one's own home. Forty-one percent of heavy drinkers tolerate drinking enough to feel intoxicated for a woman at a bar with friends, and 29% of heavy drinkers tolerate drinking enough to feel intoxicated for a couple having dinner at home.

The relationship between drinking status and people's attitudes concerning becoming intoxicated

Figure 21:
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by religiosity, age 15+, Canada, 1989

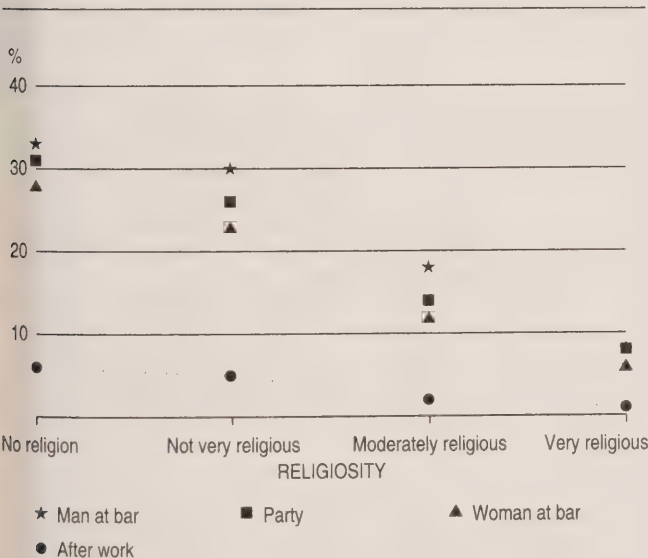


Figure 22:
Percentage of Canadians who feel it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989



is almost the same for both men and women, although the differences between heavy drinkers and lifetime abstainers are usually more pronounced for men than for women (Table 28).

Summary



People's attitudes towards situations appropriate for drinking enough to feel the effects are more sharply differentiated by some characteristics than by others. The drinking status of Canadians and differences in the amount of alcohol consumed in the week preceding the survey generate the most variation in attitudes towards social settings appropriate for heavy drinking. The next three characteristics associated with the most variation in attitudes are marital status, employment status and age. The other characteristics (sex, education, income, language and region) are not associated with much variation regarding attitudes concerning situations appropriate for becoming intoxicated.

There is little variation in people's attitudes by any of the characteristics for some situations: lunch with co-workers, drinking with friends after work, getting together with people for sports or recreation and couples drinking together at home.

There is considerable variation in people's attitudes regarding situations appropriate for becoming intoxicated by most of the characteristics for other situations: at a party, a man with friends in a bar, a woman with friends in a bar and with friends at one's own home.

Part Four:

Public Opinion About the Effectiveness of Treatment Programs Designed to Reduce Problems with Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse

Definitions

All respondents were asked to give their opinion as to the effectiveness of programs designed to reduce problems with alcohol and other drug abuse. These programs included self-help programs (such as Alcoholics Anonymous), emergency telephone services, community prevention efforts and treatment by social workers or medical staff (Q78 in Appendix B). Respondents had the choice of four answers: not at all effective, moderately effective, very effective or no opinion.

General Findings

Some 46% of Canadians think that self-help programs, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, are very effective, whereas another 33% indicate that these programs are moderately effective (Figure 23 and Table 29). One-third of the population (33%) feel that emergency phone services are very effective, and another third (31%) feel they are moderately effective. Nearly one-quarter (24%) think that community prevention efforts are very effective, whereas 40% think

these efforts are moderately effective. Finally, 21% of Canadians think that treatment by social workers or medical staff is very effective, and another 40% think these efforts are moderately effective.

Very few people think that these programs are not at all effective (Table 29). Many people do not have an opinion about the effectiveness of these programs: self-help programs (17%), emergency phone services (32%), community prevention efforts (28%) and treatment by social workers or medical staff (31%). With the exception of self-help programs, less than one-third of Canadians think any of these programs are very effective.

Sex

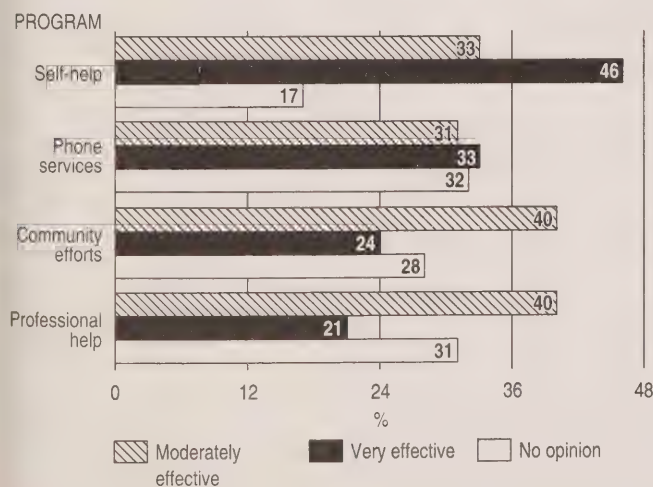
There is no relationship between gender and people's opinions concerning the effectiveness of these four treatment programs. About the same percentage of women as men consider these programs to be not at all effective, moderately effective, very effective or have no opinion (Table 29). Women, however, were more likely to say that the programs were very effective.

Age

There is a strong relationship between age and public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use (Table 30). When the percentage of people who think the programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage who think the programs are very effective, there is a close to consistent tendency for a higher percentage of younger people to think most of the programs have some effectiveness.

Only one-half (47%) of people 65 years of age and over attribute either moderate or high effectiveness to treatment by professionals, but the majority (69%) of teenagers believe this (Figure 24). Again, one-half (51%) of people 65 years of age and over attribute either moderate or high effectiveness to community prevention efforts, compared to 70% of teenagers.

Figure 23:
Public perception of the effectiveness of drug and alcohol programs, age 15+, Canada, 1989

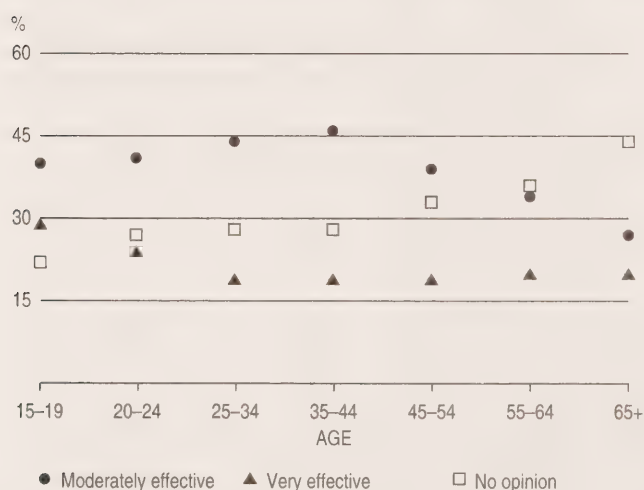


Some 56% of people 65 years of age and over attribute either moderate or high effectiveness to emergency phone services, compared to 69% of teenagers. There is little difference between people of different ages concerning their attitudes towards self-help programs.

Age makes less of a difference for opinions at the extreme. Almost as many young people as old people are likely to feel programs are not at all effective or are effective. For almost every program, there is a consistent tendency for a higher percentage of younger people to think the programs are moderately effective. The tendency is the reverse for the relationship between age and having no opinion: older people are more likely not to have an opinion concerning all the programs.

More older people have an opinion concerning self-help programs compared to the other programs. This suggests that older people have less familiarity with emergency phone services, community prevention programs and treatment by professionals. By contrast, young people seem to be more involved with all four methods of treatment, as the same percentage of young people have an opinion about all methods of treatment.

Figure 24:
Public perception of the effectiveness of drug and alcohol treatment by social workers or medical staff, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989



In summary, there is no relationship between age and the tendency to think these programs are not at all effective. A lower percentage of older people tend to attribute less overall effectiveness to these programs primarily because older people are more likely to have no opinion on this matter.

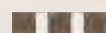
Education



People of all educational levels share similar opinions about the effectiveness of programs designed to reduce problems associated with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use (Table 31). As a result, there is little difference in the opinion of people of different levels of education when the percentage of people who think the programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage who think the programs are very effective.

For example, the combined total for self-help programs is 83% for people with a university degree compared to 77% for people with less than a secondary school education. The total for emergency telephone services is 60% for those with a university degree and 62% for those with less than a secondary school education. The total for community prevention efforts is 64% for people with a university degree compared to 62% for people with less than a secondary school education. Similarly, the total for treatment by professionals is 61% for those with a university degree and 58% for those with less than a secondary school education.

Income



People of all income levels share similar opinions about the effectiveness of programs designed to reduce problems associated with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use (Table 32). There is little difference in the opinions of people of different income levels when the percentage of people who think the programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage who think the programs are very effective.

The combined total for self-help programs is 83% for people with a household income over \$60,000 compared to 75% for people in households earning less than \$10,000. The combined total for emergency

telephone services is 62% for the highest income earners and 62% for the lowest income earners. The combined total for community prevention efforts is 68% for the highest earners compared to 59% for the lowest earners. Similarly, the combined total for treatment by professionals is 63% for the highest earners and 56% for the lowest earners.

Employment Status



There is considerable variation among people in different employment categories as to whether community prevention efforts and treatment by professionals are effective when the percentage of people that feel these programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage that feel these programs are very effective (Table 33). Only 52% of retired people feel that community efforts are effective, compared to 71% of students (Figure 25). As well, only 47% of retired people feel that treatment by professionals is effective, compared to 67% of students.

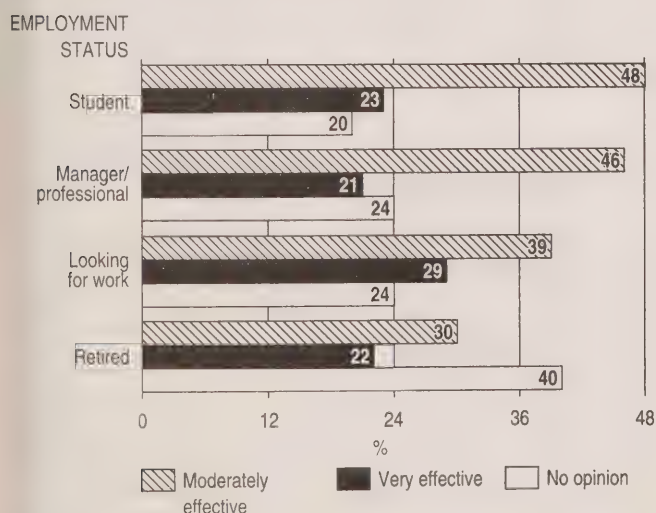
There is very little variation among people in different employment categories as to whether self-help programs or emergency phone services have at least

some effectiveness (Table 33). The variation for self-help programs ranges from 76% of retired people to 83% of managers/professionals. For emergency phone services, the variation ranges from 63% of home-makers to 70% of people looking for work.

A higher percentage of people in all employment categories feel that self-help programs are very effective compared to moderately effective. A slightly higher percentage of people in all employment categories but two (managers/professionals and students) feel that emergency phone services are very effective compared to moderately effective. By contrast to the above programs, a higher percentage of people in all employment categories feel that community efforts are moderately effective compared to very effective. Similarly, a higher percentage of people in all employment categories feel that treatment by professionals is moderately effective compared to very effective.

In summary, there is no variation by employment status as to whether people think these treatment programs are not at all effective. Students tend to be the most likely to think these programs have at least some effectiveness, whereas retired people are the least likely to attribute success to these programs. Retired people are also the most likely not to have an opinion, and students are the most likely to have opinions on the effectiveness of these treatment programs.

Figure 25:
Public perception of the effectiveness of community prevention efforts to reduce drug and alcohol problems, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



Marital Status



There is little variation among people of different marital statuses as to whether self-help programs have at least some effectiveness (Figure 26 and Table 34). There is, however, some variation among people of different marital statuses as to whether emergency telephone services have at least some effectiveness. Only 58% of widowed people feel that this program has at least some effectiveness, compared to 68% of separated people.

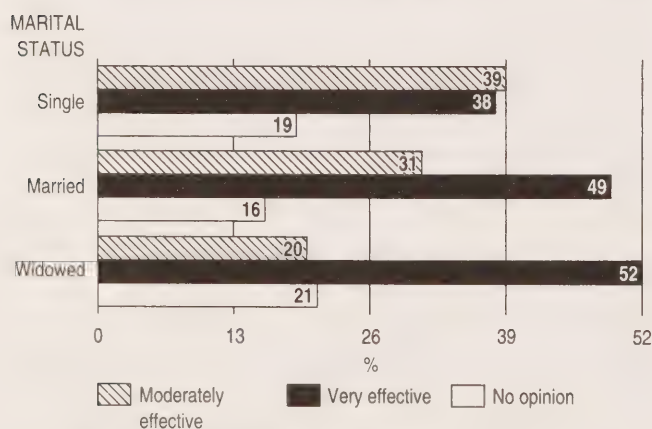
There is considerable variation among people of different marital statuses as to whether community prevention efforts and treatment by professionals have at least some effectiveness. Only 51% of widowed people feel community efforts have at least some effectiveness, compared to 67% of divorced people. Even more striking, only 44% of widowed people feel

that treatment by professionals has at least some effectiveness, compared to 65% of single (never married) people.

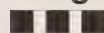
Except for people who have never married, a higher percentage of people of all marital statuses feel that self-help programs and emergency phone services are very effective compared to moderately effective. Thus, for example, 50% of married people feel that self-help programs are very effective, and only 31% think they are moderately effective. By contrast to the above programs, a higher percentage of people in all marital statuses but one (widowed) feel that community prevention is moderately effective compared to very effective. As well, a higher percentage of people in all marital statuses feel that treatment by professionals is moderately effective compared to very effective.

In overview, there is no variation by marital status about whether people think these treatment programs are not at all effective. Divorced people and single people tend to be the most likely to think these programs have at least some effectiveness, whereas widowed people are the least likely to attribute success to these programs. Widowed people are also the most likely to have no opinion.

Figure 26:
Public perception of the effectiveness of self-help programs for alcohol problems, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989



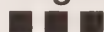
Language



There is hardly any variation in opinions between English- and French-speaking Canadians regarding the effectiveness of most programs designed to reduce problems associated with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use (Table 35).

There is considerable variation between people who speak other languages and those who speak English or French (Figure 27 and Table 35). Because people who speak other languages are more likely not to have an opinion on the effectiveness of these treatment programs, a smaller percentage think these programs are effective.

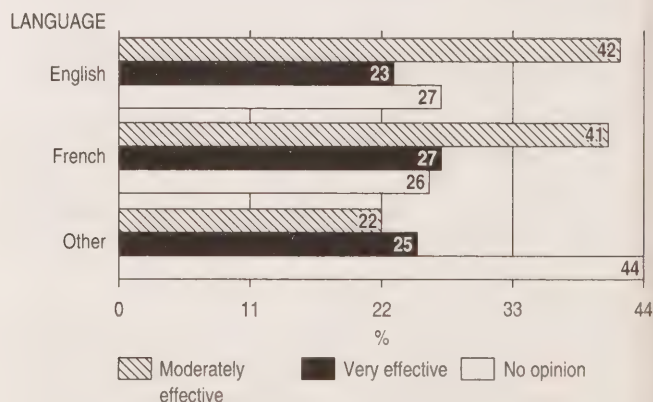
Region



There is some variation among people of different provinces as to whether treatment programs are effective when the percentage of people that feel these programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage that feel these programs are very effective (Table 36).

Some 89% of people from Saskatchewan attribute effectiveness to self-help programs, compared to 77% of people from Ontario and British Columbia. Some

Figure 27:
Public perception of the effectiveness of community prevention efforts to reduce drug and alcohol problems, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

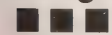


71% of people from Newfoundland and 69% of people from Alberta attribute effectiveness to emergency phone services, compared to about 60% of people from New Brunswick, British Columbia and Ontario. Some 73% of people from Newfoundland attribute effectiveness to community prevention efforts, compared to 60% of people from Ontario. People from Saskatchewan (70%) and people from the Atlantic provinces (nearly 68%) attribute effectiveness to treatment by professionals, compared to 57% of people from Ontario.

With the exceptions of the Prairie provinces, a considerably higher percentage of people from all other provinces feel that self-help programs are very effective compared to moderately effective. There is a tendency for people from only four provinces (Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario) to feel that emergency telephone services are very effective compared to moderately effective. There is a consistent tendency for more people from all the provinces to feel that community prevention efforts and treatment by professionals are moderately effective rather than very effective.

In overview, when the percentage of people that feel the programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage that feel the programs are very effective, residents of Saskatchewan, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are more likely to feel that these programs have at least some effectiveness. Residents of Ontario and British Columbia are least likely to feel they are effective. Variations in attitudes by provinces may arise because people of different provinces are exposed to different levels of availability of these various programs.

Religiosity



There is little difference between people, based on their extent of religiosity, concerning their attitudes regarding the effectiveness of programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use (Table 37). People who are very religious are most likely to think that the programs are very effective, and people with no religion are the least likely to think the programs are very effective. The difference between very religious people and people with no religion for self-help programs is 16 percentage points, for emergency telephone services is 11 percentage

points, for community prevention efforts is ten percentage points and for treatment by social workers or medical staff is nine percentage points.

There is little variation among people based on level of religiosity as to whether these four treatment programs are effective when the percentage of people that feel these programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage that feel these programs are very effective. People who are moderately religious are the most likely to attribute effectiveness to these programs, whereas people with no religion are the least likely. The difference between these two groups of people is 12 percentage points for self-help programs.

Drinking Status and Level of Consumption



There is little difference between lifetime abstainers and former drinkers or between groups of current drinkers concerning their attitudes regarding the effectiveness of programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use (Table 38). Current drinkers are somewhat more likely to think that every program is moderately effective than either lifetime abstainers or former drinkers. The difference between former drinkers and current drinkers is five percentage points for self-help programs and for emergency telephone services, 12 percentage points for community prevention efforts and 11 percentage points for treatment by social workers or medical staff. There is even less difference between lifetime abstainers, former drinkers and current drinkers regarding the percentage that think the programs are very effective.

There is some variation among people of different drinking statuses as to whether treatment programs are effective when the percentage of people that feel these programs are moderately effective is added to the percentage that feel these programs are very effective.

Sixty-nine percent of lifetime abstainers feel that self-help programs are effective, compared to 83% of people who drank over 15 drinks in the week preceding the survey. More than one-half (53%) of lifetime abstainers attribute effectiveness to treatment by professionals, compared to 65% of people who

drank over 15 drinks in the week preceding the survey. Fifty-five percent of lifetime abstainers attribute effectiveness to community prevention efforts, compared to 66% of people who drank over 15 drinks in the week preceding the survey. There is no difference in opinion between these two groups of people for emergency phone services.

Summary



There is considerable difference in the overall amount of variation in attitudes concerning the effectiveness of the four treatment programs as registered by subgroups of Canadians. Province of residence is responsible for the most variation in attitudes regarding program effectiveness. The second and third characteristics most responsible for variation in attitudes were employment status and age. The two characteristics least associated with variation regarding attitudes about program effectiveness are income and education.

In summary, there is no variation by drinking status concerning whether people think these treatment programs are not at all effective. Current drinkers are the most likely to think these programs have some effectiveness, whereas lifetime abstainers and former drinkers are the least likely to attribute success to these programs. Lifetime abstainers are the most likely to have no opinion, whereas a similar percentage of people of all other drinking statuses have opinions on the effectiveness of these treatment programs.

Discussion

Public Opinion on Alcohol and Other Drug Policies



Most of the research on alcohol and other drug policies is concerned with the effectiveness of programs for deterring alcohol and other drug abuse. Very few surveys contain comparable data on people's opinions towards the government policy issues that are dealt with in this report.

It is difficult to make comparisons between surveys for two main reasons. First, the questions are often worded differently, and the answer categories are not consistent across studies. Second, most surveys on attitudes towards government policy ask respondents to indicate whether they want current policy to stay the same, to increase or to decrease. Surveys rarely ask respondents to indicate their preference in relationship to a specified baseline. As a consequence, variation in policy content over time and across provincial jurisdictions makes a straightforward comparison between surveys difficult to interpret. For example, the level of delivery of government education programs against alcohol and other drugs varies by province and varies over time within provinces. Thus, conflicting findings from different studies may indicate unhappiness with the current level of programming in different provinces or during different time periods. Hence, an interpretation suggesting that people in one study favoured more expenditure in this direction than did those interviewed in another study may be inaccurate.

One of the studies most comparable to the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey is a survey of people living in Ontario done in 1974 by the Addiction Research Foundation (Gillies et al. 1975a). Many of its findings are similar to those of the national survey. In the Ontario study, about half of the sample supported current pricing policies of alcohol, compared to 45% of Canadians in the national survey. In the Ontario survey, as in the national survey, men and heavy drinkers were more likely than women, lifetime abstainers and infrequent drinkers to feel that prices of all types of alcoholic beverages were too high. Of the people dissatisfied with prices, three to four times as many

favoured lowering rather than raising prices (Goodstadt et al. 1978). By contrast, in this national survey, the people who were dissatisfied with the current level of taxes on alcohol products were more likely to favour higher taxes than lower taxes. Again, in both studies, socio-economic variables did not have a large bearing on attitudes towards raising prices (Gillies et al. 1975a).

Other findings from this earlier study of Ontario residents are also similar to those of this study (Gillies et al. 1975b). In the Ontario study, 56% thought that the hours of liquor stores were appropriate, whereas 9% supported shorter hours and 9% supported longer hours. In the national survey, 69% thought that the hours of liquor stores were appropriate, whereas 17% supported shorter hours and 7% supported longer hours. Women, older people and homemakers were most likely to favour further restrictions. In both studies, men, highly educated people and heavy drinkers were more likely to favour a lower drinking age. In the Ontario survey, most people (65%) supported alcohol-sponsored sports events on television; in the national survey, most people (59%) supported alcohol-sponsored sports events. In both studies, lifetime abstainers and women were the least likely to agree.

Some findings are remarkably similar in both studies. For example, in the Ontario survey, 72% of people supported increasing government spending for treatment, and only 4% wanted to decrease funding (Gillies et al. 1975b). In the national survey, 73% of people supported increasing government spending for treatment, and only 1% wanted to decrease funding. In both studies, support for further funding came from people 34 years of age and younger and declined with increasing age.

Some of the findings in the national survey, however, are different from those of the Ontario study. In the Ontario study, 47% felt that alcohol should be available in corner stores, compared to 23% in the national survey. In both studies, women and low-income people were less likely than men and persons with higher income to agree that alcohol should be available in corner stores.

In the Ontario study, 52% were satisfied with the level of advertising for beer on television and radio, whereas 22% supported a ban and 24% wanted this type of advertising reduced. In the national survey, 50% supported banning alcohol advertisements on television. In both surveys, restrictions were favoured by lifetime abstainers and older people.

Another Ontario study of people living in the small city of Sudbury and the rural area of Manitoulin in 1984 similarly found that citizens were against relaxing restrictions concerning existing alcohol legislation and controls (Shuart et al. 1984). In that study, 64% said they were in favour of government advertising to discourage drinking, 13% were strongly against and 20% were partly in favour (Shuart et al. 1984:96). In the national survey, 61% supported an increased level of government advertising to discourage drinking, and only 6% favoured decreasing spending in this direction. In both surveys, women and older people expressed a more conservative position on almost every question.

A survey of Americans in 1987 found that 80% of persons surveyed nationally would vote to require warning labels on containers of alcoholic beverages (United States Government 1988). This level is similar to the 74% of Canadians in this study that favour warning labels. In both the American study and this Canadian study, men and heavy drinkers are less likely to support this proposal.

The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey reveals that Canadians favour more restrictions on promoting alcohol than do Californians. In a 1980 study, 40% of the people surveyed in California supported more warning on alcoholic beverages and 36% favoured prohibiting advertising of these products on television (Cameron 1981). By contrast, 74% of Canadians favour warning labels on alcoholic beverages and 51% of Canadians want to ban advertising of these products on television.

The findings of American studies (Cameron 1981; Sommer 1988) correspond to the findings of this national study, showing distinctly conservative trends among young people and the elderly towards legalizing marijuana. A higher proportion of people (35%) support legalization of marijuana in this Canadian study than in a 1988 American study (25%) (Associated Press 1988).

Appropriateness of Becoming Intoxicated in Social Situations



The issue of the appropriateness of drinking in various social settings has not received the same amount of research attention as have questions concerning availability of alcohol and issues concerned with education and treatment programs.

The findings from studies done in Canada (Smart and Liban 1981), the United States (Hilton 1986; Trocki 1980) and a cross-national comparison of Scotland, Zambia and Mexico (Ritson 1985) are consistent with many of the findings of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey.

These other studies also found that women were less tolerant than men in most situations, people were more lenient towards men becoming intoxicated compared to women and abstainers were less tolerant than current drinkers. Similar to Canada, young people are the most liberal in Mexico and Scotland, whereas they are the most conservative in Zambia. In Canada, Scotland, Mexico and Zambia, drinking to feel the effects of intoxication is more acceptable at a party, at a bar and with friends at home. It is generally less acceptable during working hours, while driving or in the company of small children (Smart and Liban 1981; Ritson 1985).

Effectiveness of Treatment Programs



Most research on treatment programs is concerned with assessing the success of different treatment programs for various types of people. A much smaller body of literature examines public opinion about the effectiveness of treatment for people with drinking problems.

In an Ontario-wide survey, 60% of people thought treatment was usually positive, whereas another 30% thought treatment was helpful with qualifications (Gillies et al. 1975c). There was no significant difference between drinkers and non-drinkers or any differences based on age, sex, marital status, employment status, income, religion, birthplace and ethnicity. When asked an open-ended question to elicit the most effective method of treatment, people in Ontario were most likely to suggest Alcoholics Anonymous (16%)

(Gillies et al. 1975c). This corresponds with the finding from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey that more Canadians think that self-help programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous (46%) are very effective, in comparison to emergency phone services (33%), community prevention efforts (24%) and treatment by social workers or medical staff (21%).

In a 1978 study of people living in Durham, Ontario, the majority of respondents thought that alcoholism treatment can be effective and that the community had a responsibility to help with alcohol problems. Respondents with more negative attitudes on these questions tended to be older, less educated, from lower socio-economic classes and infrequent drinkers or abstainers (Smart and Liban 1981). The 1978 study did not ask people to differentiate between types of treatment programs. In the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, the relationship between these characteristics and negative attitudes towards the effectiveness of treatment programs varies by program. Thus, for example, younger people (69%) were more likely than older people (47%) to think treatment by professionals was successful, but young (76%) and old (72%) people were almost as likely to think that self-help programs were effective.

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Table 1:

Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,556	20,090	27.0	46.1	18.1	8.8
Male	5,262	9,845	23.7	45.4	24.5	6.5
Female	6,294	10,246	30.2	46.7	12.1	11.0
Beer/liquor store hours	11,547	20,074	7.2	69.9	17.3	5.7
Male	5,258	9,835	10.5	71.7	13.6	4.2
Female	6,289	10,239	4.0	68.1	20.8	7.1
Legal drinking age	11,556	20,100	49.7	44.9	2.8	2.5
Male	5,263	9,855	45.7	48.1	4.0	2.1
Female	6,293	10,245	53.6	41.9	1.6	3.0
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,544	20,067	82.1	10.1	3.1	4.8
Male	5,257	9,835	80.0	12.7	3.2	4.1
Female	6,287	10,231	84.1	7.5	3.0	5.5
Government advertising against drinking	11,545	20,076	61.1	28.0	6.4	4.6
Male	5,257	9,834	55.6	32.9	7.0	4.5
Female	6,288	10,242	66.3	23.3	5.7	4.7
Alcohol and drug education programs	11,553	20,082	81.0	12.8	1.1	5.2
Male	5,260	9,838	78.7	15.0	1.3	5.0
Female	6,293	10,244	83.2	10.7	*0.8	5.3
Treatment programs	11,550	20,064	74.1	13.6	0.8	11.5
Male	5,258	9,824	71.2	16.0	*0.9	11.8
Female	6,292	10,240	76.9	11.2	*0.6	11.2

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 2:**
Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Age	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
15-19	838	1,866	27.8	51.3	15.6	4.7
20-24	1,049	2,034	19.4	49.7	25.4	4.6
25-34	3,059	4,670	23.2	48.0	21.5	6.6
35-44	2,352	3,962	29.2	46.2	16.6	7.3
45-54	1,371	2,701	28.1	44.7	19.3	7.5
55-64	1,207	2,334	26.0	46.4	14.2	12.1
65+	1,758	2,718	33.2	34.2	11.8	18.2
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
15-19	838	1,866	12.5	62.2	20.9	3.3
20-24	1,049	2,034	11.0	74.7	11.8	1.5
25-34	3,059	4,670	8.3	73.6	14.2	3.3
35-44	2,352	3,962	7.0	69.7	17.9	4.7
45-54	1,371	2,701	6.1	71.5	17.2	4.8
55-64	1,207	2,334	2.9	70.0	17.2	8.7
65+	1,758	2,718	3.3	58.4	21.9	13.8
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
15-19	838	1,866	24.9	65.7	8.5	.4
20-24	1,049	2,034	34.1	61.3	2.8	1.3
25-34	3,059	4,670	48.3	46.5	2.6	2.0
35-44	2,352	3,962	57.2	37.9	2.2	2.1
45-54	1,371	2,701	55.2	40.5	2.1	1.9
55-64	1,207	2,334	55.7	38.4	1.1	3.5
65+	1,758	2,718	56.2	33.0	2.0	6.2
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
15-19	838	1,866	74.0	14.4	8.2	2.9
20-24	1,049	2,034	79.0	14.0	3.3	2.5
25-34	3,059	4,670	84.1	9.7	2.7	2.9
35-44	2,352	3,962	84.2	9.2	1.9	3.8
45-54	1,371	2,701	84.8	8.6	2.0	4.2
55-64	1,207	2,334	80.6	8.9	2.2	7.0
65+	1,758	2,718	75.4	7.6	3.3	10.7
Government advertising against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
15-19	838	1,866	62.8	27.2	7.5	1.9
20-24	1,049	2,034	57.3	34.4	5.1	2.2
25-34	3,059	4,670	62.0	30.1	4.7	2.6
35-44	2,352	3,962	65.7	24.2	6.4	3.0
45-54	1,371	2,701	60.1	25.8	7.7	5.9
55-64	1,207	2,334	56.6	28.8	6.8	6.3
65+	1,758	2,718	54.6	24.8	7.2	10.6

(continued)

Table 2: continued

Policy/Age	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Alcohol and drug education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
15-19	838	1,866	82.0	14.4	0.9	2.1
20-24	1,049	2,034	80.6	15.1	0.9	2.5
25-34	3,059	4,670	83.4	11.6	0.7	3.8
35-44	2,352	3,962	83.9	10.2	0.6	4.6
45-54	1,371	2,701	79.8	13.1	1.6	5.1
55-64	1,207	2,334	74.6	15.9	1.2	6.7
65+	1,758	2,718	72.8	11.8	2.0	10.8
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
15-19	838	1,866	78.8	14.2	0.6	5.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	73.9	14.7	0.7	9.0
25-34	3,059	4,670	75.2	14.0	0.5	9.7
35-44	2,352	3,962	75.9	12.0	0.5	10.9
45-54	1,371	2,701	71.6	15.7	1.0	11.3
55-64	1,207	2,334	71.7	12.0	1.2	13.6
65+	1,758	2,718	65.2	11.9	1.1	19.0

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 3:
Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	29.4	41.6	16.1	12.6
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	25.2	47.3	20.5	7.0
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	25.8	49.4	18.4	6.3
University degree	1,577	2,865	26.7	48.3	18.0	6.8
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	5.8	64.0	21.6	8.3
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	6.3	71.4	17.0	5.3
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	8.1	73.6	14.8	3.4
University degree	1,577	2,865	10.7	74.3	11.4	3.4
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	52.1	41.0	3.1	3.5
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	51.4	43.6	2.8	2.2
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	47.7	48.5	1.9	1.8
University degree	1,577	2,865	43.8	50.5	3.6	2.0
Efforts to prevent						
serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	78.4	10.0	4.5	6.7
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	83.4	9.6	3.2	3.7
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	85.6	9.3	1.7	3.2
University degree	1,577	2,865	81.5	12.1	1.8	4.5
Government advertising						
against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	57.8	26.0	9.0	6.7
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	60.8	29.7	5.7	3.8
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	63.6	28.6	4.8	2.8
University degree	1,577	2,865	64.6	27.6	4.0	3.6
Alcohol and drug						
education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	77.5	14.0	1.9	6.3
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	80.3	13.6	0.6	5.4
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	84.1	11.2	0.8	3.8
University degree	1,577	2,865	85.0	10.6	0.4	3.9
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	72.9	14.1	1.0	11.6
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	73.2	14.4	0.7	11.4
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	76.6	12.6	0.7	10.0
University degree	1,577	2,865	74.3	11.9	0.5	13.2

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 4:
Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
<\$10,000	861	951	33.9	34.7	14.2	16.9
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	31.2	42.2	13.2	13.5
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	26.6	46.9	19.1	7.2
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	25.9	48.7	20.3	5.1
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	22.5	51.7	21.0	4.2
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
<\$10,000	861	951	5.0	59.5	23.3	11.7
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	6.5	61.3	23.4	8.8
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	6.3	71.2	18.1	4.3
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	7.4	74.3	15.7	2.5
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	9.0	77.9	9.0	3.5
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
<\$10,000	861	951	52.4	38.3	3.3	5.8
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	55.2	38.5	2.3	4.0
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	52.0	43.6	2.7	1.6
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	49.2	47.6	2.3	0.9
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	47.5	47.6	2.2	2.0
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
<\$10,000	861	951	75.2	10.0	4.6	10.0
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	80.7	10.0	2.9	6.3
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	83.5	9.4	2.8	3.9
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	83.7	11.3	2.5	2.4
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	84.4	10.3	1.8	2.9
Government advertising against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
<\$10,000	861	951	60.1	24.3	6.2	9.0
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	62.5	24.8	7.0	5.7
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	61.0	29.0	6.2	3.5
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	63.0	29.0	5.4	2.5
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	60.4	29.8	5.8	3.4
Alcohol and drug education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
<\$10,000	861	951	76.7	11.7	1.0	10.3
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	80.0	11.7	1.4	6.9
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	81.8	13.1	1.2	3.8
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	83.2	12.8	0.6	3.4
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	83.0	12.2	0.7	3.4
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
<\$10,000	861	951	70.6	12.7	1.4	15.1
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	75.4	12.4	0.6	11.6
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	75.7	13.8	0.8	9.3
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	76.6	13.2	0.6	9.7
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	70.3	14.7	0.7	13.6

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 5:**
Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	25.5	49.1	19.8	5.5
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	27.4	45.0	19.7	7.6
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	22.0	46.4	24.8	6.8
Looking for work	311	470	27.3	45.3	19.0	8.3
Student	1,059	2,265	26.8	52.3	16.1	4.6
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	31.7	44.1	10.7	13.0
Retired	1,570	2,587	31.5	39.0	12.7	16.5
Other	118	204	26.8	42.5	11.0	19.7
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	9.5	75.4	12.5	2.6
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	7.2	69.5	18.4	4.7
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	8.3	74.6	13.0	4.1
Looking for work	311	470	10.0	63.5	21.4	5.0
Student	1,059	2,265	11.9	66.1	18.8	2.8
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	1.8	66.0	22.8	8.8
Retired	1,570	2,587	3.2	63.4	20.8	12.3
Other	118	204	4.8	62.6	15.0	17.5
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	48.8	46.8	2.6	1.7
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	54.0	41.6	2.1	2.0
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	48.3	45.9	3.3	2.4
Looking for work	311	470	46.1	49.8	2.0	2.0
Student	1,059	2,265	28.7	62.6	7.7	0.8
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	56.9	39.0	1.0	2.6
Retired	1,570	2,587	57.8	34.3	1.4	6.2
Other	118	204	49.9	44.4	0.8	4.8
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	85.1	9.4	2.0	3.3
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	83.9	10.1	2.8	2.8
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	79.5	12.5	3.1	4.5
Looking for work	311	470	79.0	10.1	4.3	6.6
Student	1,059	2,265	79.7	12.6	5.3	2.2
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	83.9	6.8	3.4	5.2
Retired	1,570	2,587	78.0	7.7	2.3	11.6
Other	118	204	80.8	5.7	2.3	10.3
Government advertising against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	61.1	30.3	5.2	3.3
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	66.9	25.1	5.0	2.7
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	54.0	33.6	7.6	4.7
Looking for work	311	470	63.3	28.3	3.2	5.2
Student	1,059	2,265	63.7	27.7	6.4	2.0
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	64.7	22.5	6.9	5.3
Retired	1,570	2,587	55.0	26.5	7.6	10.2
Other	118	204	58.8	21.8	8.9	10.5

(continued)

Table 5: continued

Policy/Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Alcohol and drug						
education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	82.8	12.7	0.6	3.8
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	83.8	11.1	0.9	3.9
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	78.3	15.2	1.1	5.4
Looking for work	311	470	82.4	11.4	0.4	5.7
Student	1,059	2,265	83.6	13.2	1.1	1.9
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	82.5	11.4	1.1	4.5
Retired	1,570	2,587	73.4	12.7	1.8	11.6
Other	118	204	71.2	16.9	0.0	11.9
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	74.2	13.8	0.4	11.5
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	76.5	13.4	0.8	9.0
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	69.8	17.4	1.0	11.4
Looking for work	311	470	78.2	10.3	0.5	10.9
Student	1,059	2,265	79.9	12.0	0.7	7.2
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	78.1	10.8	0.3	10.4
Retired	1,570	2,587	65.3	12.4	1.6	20.0
Other	118	204	71.5	12.6	0.0	15.8

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 6:

Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
English	9,261	14,145	26.2	45.4	20.2	7.9
French	1,966	4,946	27.9	49.0	13.1	9.5
Other	323	1,019	32.6	38.9	13.0	15.2
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
English	9,261	14,145	8.0	68.8	17.5	5.3
French	1,966	4,946	4.9	75.2	14.5	5.0
Other	323	1,019	6.2	54.6	25.9	13.0
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
English	9,261	14,145	49.7	44.8	2.9	2.4
French	1,966	4,946	48.5	47.5	1.6	2.1
Other	323	1,019	54.2	30.8	7.6	7.1
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
English	9,261	14,145	81.4	10.6	3.3	4.4
French	1,966	4,946	85.2	7.4	2.3	4.3
Other	323	1,019	70.2	14.0	3.6	11.9
Government advertising against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
English	9,261	14,145	58.0	29.6	7.3	4.7
French	1,966	4,946	70.0	23.3	3.2	3.0
Other	323	1,019	56.6	24.8	7.8	10.5
Alcohol and drug education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
English	9,261	14,145	81.0	12.3	1.1	5.2
French	1,966	4,946	80.4	14.2	1.0	4.0
Other	323	1,019	77.4	11.8	0.9	9.6
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
English	9,261	14,145	73.3	13.7	0.8	11.8
French	1,966	4,946	76.9	12.4	0.7	9.5
Other	323	1,019	67.5	15.4	0.5	16.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 7:

Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
Nfld.	961	427	31.1	40.1	21.6	7.1
P.E.I.	828	98	24.7	48.2	16.0	10.7
N.S.	1,259	690	25.2	46.8	17.1	10.8
N.B.	812	552	31.0	43.8	12.2	12.5
Que.	1,808	5,237	28.4	49.0	13.2	9.2
Ont.	1,974	7,486	25.4	44.0	21.5	7.6
Man.	947	830	27.4	39.4	21.5	11.8
Sask.	921	748	29.6	45.3	14.5	10.5
Alta.	992	1,826	25.1	48.9	17.4	8.6
B.C.	1,132	2,390	26.3	44.4	18.7	8.1
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
Nfld.	961	427	4.6	62.3	28.3	4.7
P.E.I.	828	98	4.9	70.5	16.7	7.2
N.S.	1,259	690	4.8	72.3	15.1	7.7
N.B.	812	552	3.8	69.5	18.8	7.3
Que.	1,808	5,237	5.2	75.4	13.9	5.1
Ont.	1,974	7,486	9.2	67.8	15.8	5.6
Man.	947	830	5.3	61.2	24.9	8.4
Sask.	921	748	5.6	71.1	16.0	7.3
Alta.	992	1,826	7.8	67.9	18.8	5.4
B.C.	1,132	2,390	7.5	63.0	22.5	4.5
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
Nfld.	961	427	51.1	44.4	2.3	2.1
P.E.I.	828	98	37.3	53.7	5.1	3.5
N.S.	1,259	690	45.5	48.9	2.5	3.0
N.B.	812	552	47.2	47.3	2.1	2.9
Que.	1,808	5,237	49.5	46.4	1.5	2.3
Ont.	1,974	7,486	46.3	45.5	3.9	2.9
Man.	947	830	55.1	40.7	1.6	2.5
Sask.	921	748	46.7	47.8	3.6	1.8
Alta.	992	1,826	60.1	36.5	1.2	2.2
B.C.	1,132	2,390	50.4	41.5	3.6	2.1
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
Nfld.	961	427	80.9	10.7	5.6	2.6
P.E.I.	828	98	77.8	11.4	3.8	6.4
N.S.	1,259	690	76.8	13.6	3.9	5.6
N.B.	812	552	80.5	8.9	4.4	5.4
Que.	1,808	5,237	85.4	7.9	2.0	4.3
Ont.	1,974	7,486	78.5	10.9	3.5	5.5
Man.	947	830	82.0	7.9	4.7	5.3
Sask.	921	748	76.9	14.8	3.3	4.9
Alta.	992	1,826	83.1	9.9	3.4	3.5
B.C.	1,132	2,390	81.7	9.8	1.9	3.9

(continued)

■ Table 7: continued

Policy/Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Government advertising						
against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
Nfld.	961	427	72.7	17.3	6.8	3.0
P.E.I.	828	98	56.0	29.4	8.3	5.7
N.S.	1,259	690	58.0	29.5	8.0	4.2
N.B.	812	552	67.7	21.7	5.8	4.3
Que.	1,808	5,237	69.5	23.7	3.4	3.1
Ont.	1,974	7,486	57.2	29.2	6.4	5.6
Man.	947	830	54.0	30.3	10.3	5.3
Sask.	921	748	50.8	33.5	10.0	5.6
Alta.	992	1,826	57.2	30.0	7.4	5.2
B.C.	1,132	2,390	55.7	29.9	8.2	3.4
Alcohol and drug						
education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
Nfld.	961	427	88.3	6.8	1.2	3.6
P.E.I.	828	98	80.4	12.4	0.8	5.9
N.S.	1,259	690	81.8	13.1	0.6	4.3
N.B.	812	552	83.0	9.8	1.3	5.4
Que.	1,808	5,237	80.4	14.3	1.1	3.9
Ont.	1,974	7,486	79.7	11.9	0.7	6.1
Man.	947	830	80.5	11.8	1.6	6.1
Sask.	921	748	78.7	14.6	2.2	4.5
Alta.	992	1,826	79.5	12.9	1.6	5.9
B.C.	1,132	2,390	79.3	12.6	1.1	4.5
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
Nfld.	961	427	86.9	7.9	0.6	4.5
P.E.I.	828	98	72.3	18.1	0.3	8.8
N.S.	1,259	690	75.1	14.7	0.4	9.6
N.B.	812	552	75.4	13.0	1.2	9.7
Que.	1,808	5,237	77.1	12.2	0.7	9.7
Ont.	1,974	7,486	71.1	13.6	0.7	12.9
Man.	947	830	68.7	15.8	1.3	13.7
Sask.	921	748	68.1	18.9	0.9	12.0
Alta.	992	1,826	70.2	16.5	0.7	12.5
B.C.	1,132	2,390	74.5	10.9	0.9	10.7

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 8:

Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by religiosity, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Religiosity	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
No religion	1,279	2,516	21.9	41.0	24.0	6.8
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	21.7	49.7	22.3	6.3
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	27.8	46.7	15.7	9.4
Very religious	1,326	2,461	38.5	37.3	11.5	12.6
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
No religion	1,279	2,516	14.0	60.8	14.1	4.3
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	9.0	73.7	12.9	4.3
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	5.2	71.3	17.3	5.9
Very religious	1,326	2,461	3.7	59.2	28.4	8.7
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
No religion	1,279	2,516	37.7	48.1	5.9	2.4
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	44.5	50.0	3.2	2.2
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	53.2	42.2	1.9	2.3
Very religious	1,326	2,461	56.0	38.0	2.0	4.0
Efforts to prevent serving drunks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
No religion	1,279	2,516	74.8	12.4	2.0	4.4
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	81.3	11.9	2.8	3.8
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	82.3	9.0	3.7	4.6
Very religious	1,326	2,461	83.6	6.6	2.1	7.4
Government advertising against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
No religion	1,279	2,516	49.2	32.7	6.9	4.4
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	56.6	31.6	7.2	4.5
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	63.4	26.6	5.7	3.9
Very religious	1,326	2,461	68.5	18.5	5.9	7.0
Alcohol and drug education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
No religion	1,279	2,516	73.6	12.5	0.8	6.5
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	79.8	13.9	1.3	4.9
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	81.7	12.7	0.9	4.4
Very religious	1,326	2,461	81.5	10.0	1.4	7.0
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
No religion	1,279	2,516	66.0	13.9	0.9	12.6
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	73.0	15.6	0.8	10.6
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	75.1	13.0	0.6	10.7
Very religious	1,326	2,461	74.4	9.8	1.2	14.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 9:
Public opinion concerning government policy relating to alcohol and other drug use, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Policy/Drinking status/ No. of drinks	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Taxes on alcohol	11,634	20,285	26.8	45.6	18.0	8.7
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	48.0	29.6	4.1	16.9
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	46.2	31.0	7.3	13.4
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	21.0	50.0	21.3	7.0
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	27.4	48.2	14.4	8.9
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	17.8	54.1	21.7	6.4
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	8.8	48.0	39.2	2.8
15+ drinks	457	928	10.0	40.7	46.8	2.4
Beer/liquor store hours	11,634	20,285	7.1	69.2	17.1	5.6
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	3.0	47.4	35.3	12.9
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	3.4	50.9	31.8	11.4
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	8.2	74.7	12.6	3.8
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	6.2	70.0	17.6	5.0
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	7.5	79.9	9.3	3.2
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	13.8	77.0	6.3	1.7
15+ drinks	457	928	20.9	74.2	3.1	1.8
Legal drinking age	11,634	20,285	49.3	44.5	2.8	2.5
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	54.6	36.1	1.6	7.1
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	60.3	32.8	1.3	3.4
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	46.6	47.6	3.2	2.0
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	50.2	43.6	3.1	1.9
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	45.7	49.0	3.1	2.1
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	37.9	57.2	2.6	1.0
15+ drinks	457	928	36.6	56.1	4.8	2.5
Efforts to prevent serving drinks	11,634	20,285	81.2	9.9	3.0	4.7
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	77.1	8.5	3.9	9.0
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	78.3	7.0	3.9	8.5
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	82.2	10.7	2.8	3.6
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	83.9	8.5	2.9	3.4
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	82.5	10.9	2.5	3.9
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	77.6	15.3	2.7	3.2
15+ drinks	457	928	73.1	19.1	3.3	3.7
Government advertising against drinking	11,634	20,285	60.5	27.7	6.3	4.5
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	72.1	15.0	3.4	7.9
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	64.2	18.8	8.2	6.5
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	58.7	30.6	6.1	3.8
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	63.2	25.8	5.9	3.8
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	57.9	32.3	5.9	3.8
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	49.5	39.4	6.1	3.7
15+ drinks	457	928	42.2	43.5	9.6	4.6

(continued)

Table 9: continued

Policy/Drinking status/ No. of drinks	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)			
			Increase	Same	Decrease	Don't know
Alcohol and drug education programs	11,634	20,285	80.2	12.7	1.1	5.1
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	81.4	9.2	0.8	7.0
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	77.7	10.6	1.8	7.7
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	80.6	13.4	0.9	4.4
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	83.9	10.4	0.8	3.7
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	79.0	14.9	0.9	5.2
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	75.7	16.6	1.2	5.3
15+ drinks	457	928	71.9	21.9	1.9	4.2
Treatment programs	11,634	20,285	73.3	13.4	0.8	11.4
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	76.5	10.1	0.6	11.3
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	72.2	10.8	1.0	13.6
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	73.3	14.2	0.7	11.0
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	77.8	11.0	0.9	9.2
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	70.3	15.9	0.6	13.0
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	68.2	17.7	0.5	12.3
15+ drinks	457	928	65.2	24.1	0.9	9.7

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 10:
Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,563	20,123	23.4	73.6	3.1
Male	5,262	9,846	33.5	63.7	2.9
Female	6,301	10,276	13.7	83.1	3.2
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,563	20,120	74.4	22.5	3.1
Male	5,262	9,852	68.8	28.5	2.7
Female	6,301	10,268	79.8	16.8	3.5
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,565	20,121	50.5	43.6	5.8
Male	5,264	9,853	42.6	52.4	5.0
Female	6,301	10,268	58.2	35.2	6.6
Should government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,560	20,112	33.1	58.7	8.2
Male	5,261	9,847	26.4	67.9	5.6
Female	6,299	10,265	39.5	49.8	10.7
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,540	20,067	54.4	35.3	10.3
Male	5,252	9,815	50.8	40.4	8.9
Female	6,288	10,253	58.0	30.4	11.6

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 11:
Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Age	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
15-19	838	1,866	17.8	79.9	1.7
20-24	1,049	2,034	24.0	74.0	1.8
25-34	3,059	4,670	25.6	71.8	2.0
35-44	2,352	3,962	27.0	71.0	1.8
45-54	1,371	2,701	24.6	71.4	3.7
55-64	1,207	2,334	23.2	70.7	4.9
65+	1,758	2,718	15.0	75.9	6.2
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
15-19	838	1,866	83.8	15.1	.6
20-24	1,049	2,034	72.6	25.3	1.9
25-34	3,059	4,670	71.5	26.0	1.9
35-44	2,352	3,962	74.0	23.7	1.9
45-54	1,371	2,701	72.1	24.1	3.6
55-64	1,207	2,334	71.9	21.9	5.0
65+	1,758	2,718	74.5	15.4	7.3
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
15-19	838	1,866	37.2	59.2	3.0
20-24	1,049	2,034	38.2	58.7	2.9
25-34	3,059	4,670	48.7	46.0	4.7
35-44	2,352	3,962	56.3	39.0	4.4
45-54	1,371	2,701	51.7	41.4	6.8
55-64	1,207	2,334	53.0	36.4	9.4
65+	1,758	2,718	57.5	30.1	9.6
Should the government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
15-19	838	1,866	29.3	66.4	3.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	25.3	70.4	4.2
25-34	3,059	4,670	28.9	64.2	6.3
35-44	2,352	3,962	35.7	57.6	6.3
45-54	1,371	2,701	35.1	55.5	9.2
55-64	1,207	2,334	36.3	50.8	11.6
65+	1,758	2,718	38.3	42.8	16.0
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
15-19	838	1,866	70.9	25.3	2.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	56.0	37.4	6.2
25-34	3,059	4,670	48.9	43.5	6.8
35-44	2,352	3,962	49.0	41.6	8.8
45-54	1,371	2,701	53.6	34.4	11.7
55-64	1,207	2,334	54.3	28.5	15.7
65+	1,758	2,718	56.0	21.0	19.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 12:

Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	18.5	77.0	4.1
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	24.7	72.3	2.9
Some post-secondary					
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	24.2	73.8	2.0
University degree	1,577	2,865	30.8	66.7	2.4
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	79.8	16.0	3.8
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	73.2	24.3	2.5
Some post-secondary					
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	72.6	24.7	2.8
University degree	1,577	2,865	66.5	30.4	3.1
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	53.6	39.0	7.0
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	49.0	46.2	4.8
Some post-secondary					
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	48.8	46.4	4.8
University degree	1,577	2,865	49.5	44.0	6.5
Should the government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	37.2	51.0	11.4
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	32.6	60.5	6.9
Some post-secondary					
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	30.7	63.5	5.7
University degree	1,577	2,865	28.8	64.3	6.9
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	61.1	24.4	14.0
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	56.6	34.2	9.1
Some post-secondary					
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	50.5	41.2	7.9
University degree	1,577	2,865	40.4	52.5	7.1

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 13:
Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
<\$10,000	861	951	15.0	79.3	5.5
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	18.4	77.4	4.1
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	23.6	73.4	2.8
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	26.3	71.8	1.9
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	32.9	64.9	1.7
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
<\$10,000	861	951	78.2	15.1	6.5
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	79.0	17.2	3.7
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	75.6	21.9	2.3
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	71.0	26.7	2.4
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	67.0	30.4	2.1
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
<\$10,000	861	951	58.4	33.1	8.3
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	57.9	36.4	5.8
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	53.3	40.9	5.7
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	49.2	46.2	4.6
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	41.5	53.7	4.4
Should the government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
<\$10,000	861	951	46.0	40.1	13.7
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	40.8	47.1	11.9
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	34.9	57.9	7.0
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	30.4	63.0	6.5
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	23.0	72.4	4.2
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
<\$10,000	861	951	58.3	24.2	16.9
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	52.3	28.4	13.1
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	55.4	34.8	9.6
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	51.9	40.5	7.2
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	46.4	47.3	5.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 14:

Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be					
sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	29.4	68.2	2.2
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	22.7	75.4	1.9
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	32.3	64.1	3.5
Looking for work	311	470	19.3	75.7	4.9
Student	1,059	2,265	20.7	77.7	1.4
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	11.2	85.5	3.1
Retired	1,570	2,587	17.5	75.1	6.6
Other	118	204	25.9	71.2	2.9
Should alcohol have					
warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	67.2	30.1	2.6
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	74.8	23.2	2.0
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	70.8	26.3	2.9
Looking for work	311	470	79.3	18.7	1.9
Student	1,059	2,265	80.4	18.1	1.3
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	82.8	13.5	3.4
Retired	1,570	2,587	74.3	17.9	7.2
Other	118	204	72.7	23.0	4.4
Should the government					
ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	49.0	46.5	4.4
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	49.4	45.5	5.1
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	45.4	49.1	5.4
Looking for work	311	470	49.9	44.4	5.6
Student	1,059	2,265	39.3	56.6	3.9
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	66.2	26.5	7.0
Retired	1,570	2,587	55.2	34.4	9.7
Other	118	204	55.6	32.4	12.0
Should the government ban					
alcohol-sponsored events	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	29.7	64.8	5.4
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	32.8	61.2	5.9
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	26.6	66.4	6.9
Looking for work	311	470	29.6	59.5	10.8
Student	1,059	2,265	30.7	64.6	4.4
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	44.8	42.5	12.5
Retired	1,570	2,587	38.2	45.6	15.5
Other	118	204	40.9	43.0	16.1
Should possession					
of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	46.0	47.5	6.5
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	52.8	38.0	8.9
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	51.9	37.6	9.8
Looking for work	311	470	54.1	35.0	10.7
Student	1,059	2,265	63.1	32.6	4.1
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	61.2	23.8	14.6
Retired	1,570	2,587	57.3	23.4	18.6
Other	118	204	59.5	25.1	15.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 15:**
Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
Married	6,292	11,832	23.6	72.4	3.2
Separated	452	597	24.9	71.2	3.2
Divorced	667	921	23.0	71.5	5.1
Widowed	1,011	1,235	11.2	80.8	5.9
Never married	3,206	5,693	24.7	73.0	1.8
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
Married	6,292	11,832	73.4	22.4	3.3
Separated	452	597	78.0	16.6	4.7
Divorced	667	921	72.3	24.5	3.0
Widowed	1,011	1,235	73.6	16.8	7.5
Never married	3,206	5,693	74.4	23.5	1.6
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
Married	6,292	11,832	53.1	39.8	6.3
Separated	452	597	46.9	43.8	8.6
Divorced	667	921	53.6	41.4	4.8
Widowed	1,011	1,235	60.8	27.3	9.8
Never married	3,206	5,693	41.5	54.2	3.8
Should the government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
Married	6,292	11,832	34.0	56.5	8.6
Separated	452	597	38.5	55.3	5.5
Divorced	667	921	33.8	57.6	8.5
Widowed	1,011	1,235	40.7	36.8	20.1
Never married	3,206	5,693	27.8	66.8	4.8
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
Married	6,292	11,832	54.4	33.5	11.0
Separated	452	597	53.3	37.8	8.2
Divorced	667	921	45.1	45.5	9.0
Widowed	1,011	1,235	53.5	21.0	23.1
Never married	3,206	5,693	54.4	38.7	6.0

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 16:

Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
English	9,261	14,145	24.4	72.7	2.6
French	1,966	4,946	20.5	75.8	3.5
Other	323	1,019	22.7	69.9	7.4
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
English	9,261	14,145	73.4	23.3	3.1
French	1,966	4,946	77.0	20.8	2.0
Other	323	1,019	72.4	18.9	8.8
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
English	9,261	14,145	47.6	46.3	5.9
French	1,966	4,946	58.6	37.2	4.1
Other	323	1,019	50.3	37.0	12.7
Should the government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
English	9,261	14,145	29.1	63.1	7.5
French	1,966	4,946	43.1	47.9	8.7
Other	323	1,019	38.0	48.0	14.1
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
English	9,261	14,145	54.7	35.6	9.3
French	1,966	4,946	50.7	37.5	11.3
Other	323	1,019	64.5	17.7	17.3

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 17:**
Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be					
sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
Nfld.	961	427	25.7	72.3	1.8
P.E.I.	828	98	16.2	81.3	2.1
N.S.	1,259	690	17.8	79.4	2.7
N.B.	812	552	21.2	75.6	2.7
Que.	1,808	5,237	21.8	74.2	3.7
Ont.	1,974	7,486	25.3	70.4	3.2
Man.	947	830	14.7	81.9	3.3
Sask.	921	748	15.4	81.9	2.6
Alta.	992	1,826	24.3	73.3	2.3
B.C.	1,132	2,390	25.9	69.5	2.1
Should alcohol have					
warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
Nfld.	961	427	89.4	7.7	2.8
P.E.I.	828	98	77.5	18.3	3.8
N.S.	1,259	690	80.5	17.3	2.1
N.B.	812	552	81.6	14.8	3.1
Que.	1,808	5,237	76.4	21.4	2.0
Ont.	1,974	7,486	71.9	23.1	3.7
Man.	947	830	75.8	20.1	4.1
Sask.	921	748	77.2	20.1	2.6
Alta.	992	1,826	69.7	26.0	4.3
B.C.	1,132	2,390	68.3	26.6	2.7
Should the government ban					
alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
Nfld.	961	427	64.8	29.7	5.4
P.E.I.	828	98	54.2	36.8	8.6
N.S.	1,259	690	54.6	39.1	6.2
N.B.	812	552	62.7	30.8	5.9
Que.	1,808	5,237	56.3	39.0	4.5
Ont.	1,974	7,486	44.0	48.0	6.8
Man.	947	830	49.0	43.7	7.3
Sask.	921	748	52.6	42.4	4.9
Alta.	992	1,826	47.5	46.8	5.7
B.C.	1,132	2,390	50.4	41.9	5.3
Should the government ban					
alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
Nfld.	961	427	42.9	49.7	7.2
P.E.I.	828	98	32.4	56.6	10.6
N.S.	1,259	690	31.3	58.3	10.2
N.B.	812	552	39.6	47.3	12.7
Que.	1,808	5,237	42.3	48.3	9.0
Ont.	1,974	7,486	28.2	63.4	7.2
Man.	947	830	30.9	57.1	11.9
Sask.	921	748	30.6	59.2	10.1
Alta.	992	1,826	28.0	66.3	5.6
B.C.	1,132	2,390	28.6	61.2	7.7

(continued)

Table 17: continued

Issue/Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should possession					
of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
Nfld.	961	427	68.4	25.2	6.3
P.E.I.	828	98	61.9	26.8	10.7
N.S.	1,259	690	57.6	32.1	9.5
N.B.	812	552	60.6	25.6	13.0
Que.	1,808	5,237	50.1	37.9	11.5
Ont.	1,974	7,486	53.2	35.3	9.9
Man.	947	830	60.5	28.9	10.4
Sask.	921	748	64.6	26.3	8.8
Alta.	992	1,826	56.1	33.9	9.9
B.C.	1,132	2,390	51.2	37.4	8.9

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 18:
Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by religiosity, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Religiosity	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
No religion	1,279	2,516	30.8	61.9	2.4
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	28.6	68.9	2.5
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	20.1	76.7	2.9
Very religious	1,326	2,461	15.5	78.9	5.5
Should alcohol have warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
No religion	1,279	2,516	65.4	25.4	4.0
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	69.3	28.2	2.4
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	76.9	20.1	2.6
Very religious	1,326	2,461	79.5	15.1	5.4
Should the government ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
No religion	1,279	2,516	37.2	51.4	6.2
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	44.7	50.9	4.4
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	52.7	40.8	6.1
Very religious	1,326	2,461	64.7	28.2	7.1
Should the government ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
No religion	1,279	2,516	21.8	67.8	5.2
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	26.8	66.8	6.2
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	35.0	55.8	8.8
Very religious	1,326	2,461	48.3	39.3	12.3
Should possession of marijuana be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
No religion	1,279	2,516	43.1	43.1	7.8
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	49.2	42.1	8.4
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	56.8	31.3	11.4
Very religious	1,326	2,461	63.0	25.5	11.4

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 19:

Public opinion regarding alcohol and other drug policy issues, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Issue/Drinking status/ No. of drinks	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Response (%)		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Should alcohol be					
sold in corner stores?	11,634	20,285	23.2	73.0	3.0
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	8.5	86.2	5.2
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	10.5	82.9	5.2
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	27.0	69.9	2.4
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	18.6	78.1	2.2
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	29.5	67.4	2.8
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	41.5	54.9	2.7
15+ drinks	457	928	54.4	44.0	1.5
Should alcohol have					
warning labels?	11,634	20,285	73.8	22.3	3.1
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	83.4	11.7	4.8
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	80.5	13.3	4.5
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	71.6	25.1	2.7
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	77.6	18.7	2.6
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	68.0	29.2	2.6
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	63.2	33.0	2.9
15+ drinks	457	928	60.6	36.8	2.5
Should the government					
ban alcohol ads on TV?	11,634	20,285	50.1	43.3	5.8
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	68.6	26.3	4.9
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	63.8	27.2	7.4
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	45.8	48.0	5.6
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	52.0	40.9	6.0
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	43.4	51.3	5.1
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	32.6	60.4	6.1
15+ drinks	457	928	32.5	62.9	4.4
Should the government					
ban alcohol-sponsored events?	11,634	20,285	32.8	58.2	8.1
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	49.3	38.1	12.4
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	47.6	38.4	12.1
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	28.4	63.9	7.0
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	34.3	56.5	8.1
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	25.5	67.5	6.8
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	17.6	77.6	3.9
15+ drinks	457	928	17.4	78.4	4.1
Should possession of marijuana					
be criminal?	11,634	20,285	53.9	34.9	10.2
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	66.9	18.2	14.6
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	62.5	22.1	13.0
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	51.0	38.9	9.2
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	57.9	30.6	10.4
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	48.5	42.6	8.6
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	37.4	54.9	6.8
15+ drinks	457	928	33.7	57.0	7.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 20:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by age and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Age/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
15-34	4,946	8,569	28.3	32.8	25.9	19.1	*1.2	25.7	5.7	7.4
Male	2,297	4,301	35.0	39.2	31.6	19.3	*1.7	31.4	8.2	10.1
Female	2,649	4,269	21.6	26.3	20.1	18.9	*0.7	19.9	3.2	4.8
35-54	3,723	6,663	15.4	17.6	12.7	16.3	*1.3	15.5	2.6	4.5
Male	1,825	3,320	22.0	23.8	18.1	16.1	*1.9	20.1	4.1	7.1
Female	1,898	3,343	8.9	11.4	7.3	16.4	*0.8	11.0	*1.1	*1.9
55+	2,965	5,052	6.7	8.8	4.8	7.9	—	6.1	*1.1	*1.5
Male	1,169	2,299	9.6	11.6	7.1	9.6	—	8.7	*1.6	*2.1
Female	1,796	2,753	*4.3	6.4	*2.9	6.5	—	*3.9	—	*1.0

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 21:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by education and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Education/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	15.6	19.5	13.0	9.9	*0.7	13.4	2.9	3.9
Male	1,962	3,349	20.0	23.8	16.2	10.1	*1.2	17.7	4.4	5.2
Female	2,179	3,395	11.1	15.2	9.8	9.7	—	9.0	*1.5	*2.6
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	19.0	23.1	16.8	17.2	*0.9	18.5	3.3	5.1
Male	1,350	2,597	27.0	31.5	24.5	18.0	*1.2	24.4	5.7	7.6
Female	1,766	3,071	12.3	15.9	10.3	16.5	—	13.5	*1.3	*3.0
Some post-secondary										
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	22.7	24.6	20.1	18.7	*1.3	21.3	4.6	6.6
Male	1,137	2,271	30.8	31.3	25.9	19.7	*2.2	28.0	7.7	10.5
Female	1,556	2,494	15.3	18.4	14.7	17.9	—	15.1	*1.8	*3.1
University degree	1,577	2,865	20.3	21.8	18.1	20.4	*1.7	19.9	*3.7	4.9
Male	804	1,606	23.7	25.7	22.2	20.8	*2.3	21.8	*3.4	*6.6
Female	773	1,259	16.0	16.7	12.8	20.0	—	17.6	*4.1	*2.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 22:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by income and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Income/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
<\$10,000	861	951	14.1	17.8	*12.6	*11.2	—	*11.7	*3.0	*3.4
Male	255	325	*18.5	*21.4	*17.5	*13.8	—	*14.9	—	—
Female	606	626	*11.9	*16.0	*10.0	*9.8	—	*10.0	—	—
\$10,000–\$19,999	2,118	2,882	14.2	18.8	12.6	12.8	—	12.6	*2.5	*2.9
Male	836	1,197	21.0	23.9	17.0	13.0	—	17.4	*4.3	*4.6
Female	1,282	1,685	9.3	15.2	9.4	12.7	—	9.2	—	*1.7
\$20,000–\$39,999	3,487	5,588	19.0	21.8	16.1	14.8	*1.4	17.7	2.3	5.3
Male	1,683	2,809	24.1	27.5	20.2	14.9	*1.8	22.5	*2.9	7.8
Female	1,804	2,779	13.8	16.2	12.0	14.7	*0.9	12.9	*1.7	*2.9
\$40,000–\$59,999	2,134	4,380	21.2	23.4	18.3	18.6	*1.2	21.5	4.0	5.6
Male	1,142	2,355	26.3	28.8	22.5	17.9	*1.9	24.6	6.0	6.9
Female	992	2,025	15.2	17.1	13.4	19.4	—	17.8	*1.7	*4.2
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	23.3	26.5	21.2	20.4	*0.8	22.1	5.6	6.5
Male	782	1,972	28.3	31.8	27.0	20.3	—	26.5	7.3	9.0
Female	613	1,337	15.9	18.7	12.8	20.5	—	15.6	*3.2	*2.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 23:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by employment status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Employment status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	21.4	23.5	18.6	20.3	*1.5	21.1	4.0	5.7
Male	1,128	2,170	26.7	27.6	22.3	20.8	*2.3	24.5	*4.4	8.1
Female	1,177	1,821	15.0	18.6	14.2	19.7	—	17.2	*3.5	*2.9
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	18.7	22.2	16.1	18.3	*1.3	18.2	3.3	5.9
Male	770	1,510	24.2	28.4	22.5	17.8	—	22.2	*5.8	8.5
Female	1,486	2,534	15.5	18.5	12.3	18.6	*1.1	15.7	*1.9	*4.3
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	26.2	29.6	22.5	15.0	*1.4	23.3	5.2	7.2
Male	1,831	3,192	28.5	31.6	24.3	14.4	*1.7	25.0	5.8	7.6
Female	314	555	*13.1	*18.2	12.4	*18.9	—	*13.6	—	—
Looking for work	311	470	*23.4	26.3	*19.4	*18.4	—	*19.6	—	*7.8
Male	178	279	*23.7	*28.0	*20.6	*19.3	—	*22.1	—	—
Female	133	191	*22.9	*23.8	*17.6	*17.1	—	*16.0	—	—
Student	1,059	2,265	29.2	33.8	27.1	17.8	—	24.6	6.6	7.2
Male	497	1,133	35.4	39.0	30.5	19.9	—	32.3	*10.8	*10.8
Female	562	1,133	23.0	28.6	23.8	15.7	—	16.8	*2.3	*3.5
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	9.0	12.0	7.3	11.2	—	10.1	*1.0	*1.2
Male	41	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1,725	2,672	8.8	11.8	7.3	11.3	—	10.1	—	*1.2
Retired	1,570	2,587	6.0	8.1	4.9	7.5	—	5.3	*1.0	*1.4
Male	723	1,313	*8.2	11.1	*7.3	*8.5	—	*7.6	—	—
Female	847	1,273	*3.8	*5.0	*2.4	*6.4	—	*3.0	—	—
Other	118	204	*13.2	*20.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Male	76	135	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	42	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 24:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by marital status and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Marital status/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
Married	6,292	11,832	14.4	16.4	11.5	13.4	*0.9	14.0	1.6	3.6
Male	3,011	5,962	18.8	20.4	15.1	13.7	*1.0	17.0	2.2	5.1
Female	3,281	5,870	9.9	12.4	7.9	13.0	*0.7	11.1	*1.0	*2.1
Separated	452	597	21.1	24.9	*17.8	*19.9	—	*18.1	*6.5	*6.3
Male	180	255	*26.6	*32.2	*23.5	*21.2	—	*28.5	*11.5	*11.9
Female	272	342	*17.1	*19.4	*13.6	*18.8	—	*10.4	—	—
Divorced	667	921	18.7	21.7	14.8	22.6	—	18.6	*3.6	*5.3
Male	261	370	27.3	30.8	*21.7	*22.3	—	*26.9	*7.3	*8.6
Female	406	551	*12.9	*15.7	*10.1	22.8	—	*13.0	—	—
Widowed	1,011	1,235	*5.2	*7.9	*4.4	*7.2	—	*5.0	—	—
Male	162	206	*12.6	*15.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	849	1,029	*3.7	*6.3	*3.1	*6.4	—	*4.0	—	—
Never married	3,206	5,693	30.4	35.8	28.9	19.6	*1.5	27.0	7.6	8.5
Male	1,674	3,122	36.5	41.7	34.0	19.3	*2.2	32.5	10.6	11.2
Female	1,532	2,571	23.0	28.6	22.6	20.0	—	20.4	4.0	5.2

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 25:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by language and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Language/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
English	9,261	14,145	22.1	24.5	18.8	15.0	0.9	18.9	3.9	5.0
Male	4,212	6,887	29.4	31.3	24.8	15.8	*1.4	24.7	5.7	6.9
Female	5,049	7,257	15.2	18.0	13.2	14.2	*0.4	13.5	2.2	3.1
French	1,966	4,946	11.3	16.3	11.4	18.6	*1.5	16.0	2.8	5.8
Male	872	2,389	15.6	20.6	15.6	18.9	*2.2	19.9	*5.1	9.5
Female	1,094	2,557	7.4	12.2	7.5	18.3	—	12.3	—	*2.3
Other	323	1,019	*9.6	14.7	7.1	*7.5	—	*6.6	—	—
Male	173	581	*8.8	*15.6	7.2	*7.4	—	*6.8	—	—
Female	150	438	*10.7	*13.6	7.0	*7.8	—	*6.4	—	—

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 26:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Canada	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Nfld.	961	427	22.5	27.7	18.6	8.0	—	19.0	*3.9	4.1
P.E.I.	828	98	19.3	22.5	17.1	7.3	—	14.9	*3.1	4.8
N.S.	1,259	690	24.2	27.6	20.5	10.7	*1.3	18.4	*2.8	5.5
N.B.	812	552	16.6	18.2	14.5	10.4	—	13.2	*3.1	6.2
Que.	1,808	5,237	11.1	16.2	11.2	18.3	*1.5	16.5	2.8	5.1
Ont.	1,974	7,486	19.7	21.2	14.7	15.8	*0.9	17.2	3.3	4.8
Man.	947	830	24.1	25.0	20.5	10.7	—	17.5	4.4	5.0
Sask.	921	748	21.5	27.2	22.3	8.3	—	16.1	*3.7	5.1
Alta.	992	1,826	23.4	27.1	22.5	13.6	*1.0	20.9	5.5	5.2
B.C.	1,132	2,390	24.2	27.2	23.1	16.9	*1.0	18.9	4.1	4.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 27:

Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by religiosity and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Religiosity/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
No religion	1,279	2,516	31.4	33.0	28.1	19.0	*1.7	26.3	6.3	8.1
Male	747	1,523	36.7	38.2	32.5	18.5	*2.7	29.3	*8.1	10.0
Female	532	994	23.2	25.0	21.4	19.9	—	21.7	*3.5	*5.2
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	26.1	30.0	23.1	19.1	*1.5	24.9	5.2	6.0
Male	1,560	3,000	31.7	34.0	27.1	19.0	*2.0	29.0	7.0	7.8
Female	1,357	2,379	19.0	24.8	18.1	19.2	—	19.7	*3.0	*3.8
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	14.2	18.0	12.2	13.5	*0.7	13.6	2.4	4.1
Male	2,490	4,373	19.5	23.5	16.9	14.3	*1.0	18.3	4.3	6.7
Female	3,598	5,517	9.9	13.6	8.5	12.9	*0.5	9.9	*0.9	*2.0
Very religious	1,326	2,461	8.2	8.1	6.0	11.1	—	7.9	*1.5	*3.2
Male	481	1,002	*9.3	*10.8	*7.7	*10.3	—	*9.9	—	*3.7
Female	845	1,459	*7.4	*6.2	*4.8	*11.6	—	*6.5	*2.1	*2.8

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 28:**
Percentage of Canadians who feel that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel intoxicated in various social situations, by drinking status, number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey and sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Drinking status/ No. of drinks/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	At a party at someone else's home	For a man out at a bar with friends	For a woman out at a bar with friends	For a couple having dinner at home	For co-workers out for lunch	With friends at one's own home	When getting together with friends after work	When getting together with people for sports or recreation
Total population	11,634	20,285	18.7	21.8	16.3	15.4	1.0	17.5	3.5	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	24.8	27.7	21.4	16.0	1.6	22.4	5.3	7.2
Female	6,343	10,365	12.9	16.2	11.4	14.8	*0.5	12.8	1.8	2.8
Lifetime abstainer	840	1,349	*2.2	*5.0	*1.9	*3.4	—	*2.2	—	—
Male	203	371	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	637	977	—	*5.0	—	*3.3	—	—	—	—
Former drinker	2,032	3,182	6.1	10.3	5.6	5.9	—	5.2	—	*1.4
Male	755	1,238	*8.5	12.8	*8.3	*5.4	—	*5.6	—	—
Female	1,277	1,944	*4.6	8.8	*3.8	*6.2	—	*4.9	—	*1.4
Current drinker	8,760	15,752	22.7	25.6	19.7	18.3	1.3	21.3	4.3	6.0
Male	4,332	8,310	28.1	30.9	24.2	18.1	1.8	25.7	6.1	8.4
Female	4,428	7,441	16.6	19.6	14.6	18.6	*0.7	16.3	2.3	3.5
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	16.4	18.9	13.7	15.1	*0.8	14.1	2.3	3.5
Male	1,716	3,159	20.5	22.5	16.6	14.2	*1.4	16.4	*3.7	4.9
Female	2,613	4,218	13.3	16.2	11.5	15.8	—	12.5	*1.3	*2.5
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	22.5	26.5	20.5	18.7	*1.4	21.9	4.4	5.6
Male	1,639	3,281	25.9	30.3	24.0	16.6	*1.7	24.3	5.6	7.2
Female	1,533	2,736	18.4	22.0	16.4	21.2	*1.1	19.0	*2.8	*3.7
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	38.0	39.6	33.5	26.3	*2.1	37.5	*7.9	13.2
Male	587	1,079	40.2	41.0	34.2	25.8	—	40.3	*8.7	15.1
Female	215	351	31.4	35.2	31.5	*27.7	—	*28.8	—	—
15+ drinks	457	928	49.9	50.7	40.7	29.2	*3.1	48.6	14.1	17.9
Male	390	792	51.0	52.7	41.7	29.4	*3.6	48.9	*14.1	17.5
Female	67	136	*43.5	*39.2	*34.4	*28.3	—	*46.4	—	*20.7

* High sampling variability

— Data suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 29:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by sex, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Sex	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/ No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	34.6	43.3	18.6
Female	6,343	10,365	2.3	31.2	49.2	16.1
Emergency phone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
Male	5,291	9,920	4.7	30.7	30.2	33.4
Female	6,343	10,365	3.0	30.5	34.9	30.5
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
Male	5,291	9,920	9.0	41.0	21.4	27.7
Female	6,343	10,365	6.0	39.7	25.8	27.4
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
Male	5,291	9,920	7.6	40.6	19.8	31.1
Female	6,343	10,365	7.7	39.0	21.3	30.8

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 30:**
Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by age, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Age	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
15-19	838	1,866	3.7	38.7	37.1	19.5
20-24	1,049	2,034	1.8	40.9	38.0	18.3
25-34	3,059	4,670	2.6	38.2	41.8	16.8
35-44	2,352	3,962	1.5	34.0	47.2	16.8
45-54	1,371	2,701	1.7	27.8	55.1	15.0
55-64	1,207	2,334	2.3	25.0	55.9	15.2
65+	1,758	2,718	3.6	23.7	48.5	21.2
Emergency phone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
15-19	838	1,866	7.2	37.5	31.4	22.7
20-24	1,049	2,034	3.9	34.7	30.4	29.9
25-34	3,059	4,670	3.8	34.6	29.4	31.7
35-44	2,352	3,962	4.3	32.1	31.2	31.9
45-54	1,371	2,701	3.0	26.2	37.2	33.4
55-64	1,207	2,334	1.6	24.3	38.7	33.9
65+	1,758	2,718	3.6	23.6	32.6	37.2
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
15-19	838	1,866	10.2	47.1	22.8	18.7
20-24	1,049	2,034	8.2	46.0	22.3	22.6
25-34	3,059	4,670	8.1	45.2	20.7	25.4
35-44	2,352	3,962	7.0	44.1	24.4	24.1
45-54	1,371	2,701	8.0	35.6	26.8	29.4
55-64	1,207	2,334	5.3	35.1	26.0	32.0
65+	1,758	2,718	5.7	26.7	24.2	40.5
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
15-19	838	1,866	8.0	39.8	29.3	21.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	7.1	41.2	24.1	26.6
25-34	3,059	4,670	8.5	44.1	18.6	28.1
35-44	2,352	3,962	7.3	45.9	18.6	27.7
45-54	1,371	2,701	8.2	39.5	19.2	32.9
55-64	1,207	2,334	8.1	34.4	20.1	35.6
65+	1,758	2,718	5.8	27.1	19.7	44.1

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 31:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by education, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Education	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	3.6	29.8	46.7	19.5
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	2.4	36.2	44.4	16.9
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	1.7	34.4	47.9	15.9
University degree	1,577	2,865	.9	33.4	49.6	16.0
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	4.9	27.3	35.0	32.3
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	3.3	33.3	32.1	31.3
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	3.3	33.5	32.7	30.5
University degree	1,577	2,865	3.5	30.4	29.8	36.2
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	6.9	34.4	27.4	30.9
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	7.5	41.1	23.5	27.8
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	7.3	47.7	21.6	23.3
University degree	1,577	2,865	9.4	43.7	20.0	26.9
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
Less than secondary	4,141	6,744	7.9	35.0	23.3	33.3
Secondary completed	3,116	5,668	7.3	41.2	19.8	31.6
Some post-secondary						
non-university degree	2,693	4,764	8.7	44.5	20.3	26.5
University degree	1,577	2,865	6.8	43.5	17.0	32.7

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 32:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by income, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Income	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
<\$10,000	861	951	5.1	30.9	43.6	20.1
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	3.4	32.5	45.9	18.0
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	2.4	33.6	49.2	14.6
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	2.1	35.0	49.8	13.0
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	0.7	35.2	47.8	15.9
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
<\$10,000	861	951	4.2	24.9	36.8	33.9
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	2.4	28.8	35.3	33.3
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	3.8	30.9	35.6	29.5
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	3.4	33.3	31.6	31.6
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	5.0	33.3	29.1	32.1
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
<\$10,000	861	951	5.6	35.0	24.3	34.8
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	8.0	34.5	26.8	30.5
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	7.0	42.0	26.3	24.5
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	7.7	44.4	21.4	26.5
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	8.1	46.3	21.4	23.9
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
<\$10,000	861	951	8.7	34.3	21.9	34.8
\$10,000-\$19,999	2,118	2,882	8.8	36.1	21.9	32.8
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,487	5,588	7.8	41.9	22.1	28.1
\$40,000-\$59,999	2,134	4,380	8.5	44.3	18.6	28.7
\$60,000+	1,395	3,309	6.8	43.3	20.1	29.5

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 33:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by employment status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Employment status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	1.4	33.2	50.1	15.2
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	1.7	34.4	46.7	16.9
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	2.3	35.7	43.6	18.1
Looking for work	311	470	5.5	35.2	41.9	17.3
Student	1,059	2,265	2.5	37.5	39.8	20.0
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	3.3	31.4	49.8	15.1
Retired	1,570	2,587	3.2	25.5	50.2	20.4
Other	118	204	7.4	28.6	40.4	23.6
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	3.8	32.7	29.9	33.5
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	3.8	31.9	33.9	30.2
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	3.6	30.5	33.6	32.0
Looking for work	311	470	5.0	29.4	40.1	25.4
Student	1,059	2,265	6.0	36.5	31.3	25.9
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	2.2	28.8	34.3	34.4
Retired	1,570	2,587	3.5	24.3	33.8	37.7
Other	118	204	6.8	32.0	22.4	38.9
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	8.5	45.7	21.4	24.2
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	7.0	41.1	25.1	26.6
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	8.2	41.2	24.1	26.2
Looking for work	311	470	7.6	39.3	29.0	24.0
Student	1,059	2,265	9.2	47.6	23.0	20.0
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	4.5	37.4	26.6	31.1
Retired	1,570	2,587	7.4	29.8	22.0	40.1
Other	118	204	6.5	34.2	21.9	37.4
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
Manager/professional	2,305	3,991	8.4	45.6	18.8	27.1
Other white collar	2,256	4,044	6.1	42.2	22.0	29.6
Blue collar	2,145	3,747	8.0	42.6	19.2	30.0
Looking for work	311	470	6.3	37.4	26.4	29.7
Student	1,059	2,265	8.3	39.1	27.6	24.8
Keeping house	1,766	2,730	8.7	37.2	20.7	33.1
Retired	1,570	2,587	7.2	30.4	16.4	45.1
Other	118	204	14.4	27.5	22.4	35.7

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 34:**
Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by marital status, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Marital status	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
Married	6,292	11,832	2.1	31.2	49.5	16.2
Separated	452	597	1.3	37.8	43.1	17.1
Divorced	667	921	2.0	30.6	48.9	18.2
Widowed	1,011	1,235	3.9	20.2	52.1	21.3
Never married	3,206	5,693	2.7	39.0	38.4	18.9
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
Married	6,292	11,832	3.4	28.8	32.9	33.9
Separated	452	597	5.5	31.8	36.0	26.0
Divorced	667	921	3.6	31.1	34.3	30.8
Widowed	1,011	1,235	2.3	20.1	37.9	37.3
Never married	3,206	5,693	4.8	36.5	30.1	27.5
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
Married	6,292	11,832	7.1	39.4	24.1	28.4
Separated	452	597	6.8	38.6	26.0	27.9
Divorced	667	921	8.2	39.6	27.5	24.2
Widowed	1,011	1,235	5.2	25.6	25.7	41.0
Never married	3,206	5,693	8.6	45.6	21.5	23.3
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
Married	6,292	11,832	7.5	40.3	19.6	31.7
Separated	452	597	10.9	36.6	22.1	28.9
Divorced	667	921	10.1	43.1	18.1	28.1
Widowed	1,011	1,235	6.7	26.5	17.7	46.6
Never married	3,206	5,693	7.4	41.4	23.4	26.8

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 35:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by language, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Language	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
English	9,261	14,145	2.4	33.8	47.3	16.2
French	1,966	4,946	1.5	32.4	48.1	17.6
Other	323	1,019	7.3	27.3	30.8	34.2
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
English	9,261	14,145	4.1	32.1	31.6	31.8
French	1,966	4,946	2.5	28.8	35.8	32.4
Other	323	1,019	7.2	22.9	34.9	34.8
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
English	9,261	14,145	8.3	41.7	22.6	27.0
French	1,966	4,946	4.9	41.2	27.0	26.4
Other	323	1,019	8.4	22.2	25.2	43.9
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
English	9,261	14,145	8.2	41.3	19.7	30.3
French	1,966	4,946	7.1	39.5	22.9	30.1
Other	323	1,019	3.5	25.5	23.5	47.1

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ **Table 36:**
Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by province, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Province	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
Nfld.	961	427	3.5	34.1	48.2	14.1
P.E.I.	828	98	2.3	32.8	59.5	4.9
N.S.	1,259	690	1.9	34.2	52.0	11.8
N.B.	812	552	2.3	28.5	56.2	12.3
Que.	1,808	5,237	1.8	32.0	46.8	19.0
Ont.	1,974	7,486	2.2	29.7	47.2	19.2
Man.	947	830	2.7	40.7	40.8	15.8
Sask.	921	748	2.4	41.9	47.1	8.5
Alta.	992	1,826	4.3	40.9	41.4	13.5
B.C.	1,132	2,390	2.5	33.6	43.2	18.1
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
Nfld.	961	427	6.5	34.8	36.6	22.1
P.E.I.	828	98	3.5	37.1	26.1	32.8
N.S.	1,259	690	3.8	35.6	30.2	30.2
N.B.	812	552	3.4	28.4	32.0	35.4
Que.	1,808	5,237	2.5	29.1	35.4	32.6
Ont.	1,974	7,486	4.2	27.1	33.8	33.1
Man.	947	830	6.3	36.7	25.3	31.5
Sask.	921	748	4.8	37.2	28.6	29.3
Alta.	992	1,826	4.0	40.8	28.6	26.5
B.C.	1,132	2,390	3.9	30.8	29.5	33.3
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
Nfld.	961	427	8.3	41.2	31.3	19.1
P.E.I.	828	98	6.4	45.3	23.6	24.2
N.S.	1,259	690	8.7	44.4	22.0	24.8
N.B.	812	552	7.6	38.5	25.2	27.9
Que.	1,808	5,237	5.1	40.6	26.1	27.8
Ont.	1,974	7,486	7.5	34.6	25.1	31.0
Man.	947	830	9.5	46.8	15.3	28.3
Sask.	921	748	5.8	56.2	18.5	19.3
Alta.	992	1,826	10.5	45.8	19.9	23.7
B.C.	1,132	2,390	9.2	44.9	19.9	23.6
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
Nfld.	961	427	9.9	41.8	26.1	22.0
P.E.I.	828	98	5.5	44.7	23.8	25.2
N.S.	1,259	690	7.2	45.6	22.6	24.4
N.B.	812	552	6.6	40.6	24.6	27.5
Que.	1,808	5,237	7.2	38.8	22.3	31.4
Ont.	1,974	7,486	7.4	34.7	21.9	34.3
Man.	947	830	8.3	48.4	13.2	30.0
Sask.	921	748	8.0	53.3	16.8	21.8
Alta.	992	1,826	8.7	46.7	16.8	27.7
B.C.	1,132	2,390	8.5	42.8	16.3	30.0

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Table 37:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by religiosity, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Religiosity	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
No religion	1,279	2,516	*1.8	32.7	37.6	21.3
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	2.9	35.8	42.3	18.8
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	2.1	33.2	48.9	15.5
Very religious	1,326	2,461	*3.1	25.4	53.7	17.8
Emergency phone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
No religion	1,279	2,516	5.4	30.7	25.8	31.4
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	4.3	33.3	29.1	33.1
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	3.2	30.3	35.0	31.0
Very religious	1,326	2,461	*3.5	25.8	37.0	33.6
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
No religion	1,279	2,516	9.6	39.6	17.2	27.0
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	8.6	41.7	20.8	28.7
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	6.6	41.0	25.9	26.1
Very religious	1,326	2,461	6.2	35.0	27.4	31.4
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
No religion	1,279	2,516	7.3	40.1	14.5	31.4
Not very religious	2,917	5,379	8.6	41.3	18.9	30.9
Moderately religious	6,088	9,890	7.1	40.8	22.1	29.6
Very religious	1,326	2,461	8.0	32.2	23.9	35.9

* High sampling variability

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

■ Table 38:

Public opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication and illegal drug use, by drinking status and number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey, age 15+, Canada, 1989

Program/Drinking status/ No. of drinks	Sample size (N)	Pop. est. (000s)	Opinion (%)			
			Not at all effective	Moderately effective	Very effective	Don't know/ No opinion
Self-help programs such as AA	11,634	20,285	2.4	32.9	46.3	17.4
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	4.3	27.1	41.9	25.7
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	3.2	28.9	45.2	20.1
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	2.1	34.2	46.9	16.1
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	2.5	33.1	47.4	15.9
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	1.5	35.7	46.1	16.5
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	1.7	33.4	47.4	16.5
15+ drinks	457	928	2.9	34.4	48.5	14.1
Emergency telephone services	11,634	20,285	3.8	30.6	32.6	31.9
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	4.0	27.9	32.6	34.5
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	3.5	26.9	35.5	31.4
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	3.9	31.6	32.0	31.8
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	4.3	31.0	33.5	30.0
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	3.0	33.0	30.6	33.2
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	3.1	31.6	29.5	35.0
15+ drinks	457	928	7.0	27.0	33.4	32.6
Community prevention efforts	11,634	20,285	7.4	40.3	23.7	27.5
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	5.0	31.4	23.8	38.8
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	7.5	30.6	26.9	32.3
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	7.6	43.0	23.0	25.6
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	6.7	43.0	24.1	25.0
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	8.1	43.2	22.5	26.0
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	9.9	42.0	20.3	27.0
15+ drinks	457	928	8.5	44.3	21.4	25.7
Treatment by social workers or medical staff	11,634	20,285	7.6	39.8	20.5	31.0
Lifetime abstainers	840	1,349	5.0	31.1	21.6	41.3
Former drinkers	2,032	3,182	9.1	31.5	22.3	34.3
Current drinkers	8,760	15,752	7.6	42.2	20.1	29.4
0 drinks	4,329	7,376	7.2	41.3	20.9	29.4
1-7 drinks	3,172	6,017	8.2	42.6	19.3	29.6
8-14 drinks	802	1,430	6.3	43.8	18.7	30.2
15+ drinks	457	928	8.5	43.4	21.1	26.8

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, 1989

Appendices

Appendix A: A Methodological Overview
Appendix B: NADS Questionnaire

Appendix A: A Methodological Overview

Population



The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (NADS) was conducted in March 1989 by Statistics Canada on behalf of Health and Welfare Canada. Data were collected through telephone interviews from a sample of 11,634 Canadians (for respondents' characteristics, see Table A).

The target population for the NADS was all Canadian residents 15 years of age and over, excluding residents of hospitals and penal institutions, from ten provinces, not the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The exclusions are typical of national surveys in Canada. Separate surveys were planned for these special populations: a separate survey was conducted in the Yukon in the fall of 1990, for example.

The NADS uses a random digit dialling sample. Households without telephones (2%) were not included in the sampling frame. These households, consisting mainly of young, male, single and less educated people, differ from the general population (Catlin and Shields 1988). However, their small number is not likely to bias NADS estimates (Statistics Canada 1989).

Survey Design



Sampling Methods

The NADS is based on two random digit dialling sampling methods: the Elimination of Non-Working Banks method for Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta, and the Waksberg method (Waksberg 1978) for the other provinces (for a detailed description, see Statistics Canada 1989).

Primary and secondary telephone numbers were generated continuously during the survey period in order to yield the required quota of households. The design allows equal probability of each household being selected. After reaching a household, its membership was listed from oldest to youngest for random selection. This procedure prevents overrepresentation of persons more likely to be at home.

Sample Size and Response Rate

NADS data were collected through telephone interviews from 11,634 Canadians, 15 years of age and older, in ten provinces. To fulfill national and provincial requirements for reliable statistical estimation, sample allocation was proportional to the square root of the provincial population. Whenever the sample allocation was below 1,000, a supplement was added to fulfill the minimum quota.

The response rate of 79% justifies confidence in the accuracy of the results reported. Non-response was due to such reasons as refusal, illness, absence for the duration of the survey, language problems or non-contact (see Table B for details).

Collection and Processing of Data

Telephone interviewing was chosen to minimize cost and produce reliable data along with a high response rate, among other reasons. Anonymity was guaranteed through *The Statistics Act* in order to increase the response rate and the likelihood of truthful reporting. Proxy reporting and substitution were not allowed, as many questions required knowledge of attitudes, beliefs and opinions.

Interviews were conducted from Statistics Canada regional offices by a pool of experienced interviewers who received special training concerning concepts unique to the NADS. The work of the interviewers was monitored by periodic observation and by reinterviewing. Refusals were recontacted by a senior interviewer to enhance data capture.

Statistics Canada edited all survey records. Missing data were assigned a "not stated" code except for cases requiring weighting. Variables such as sex and age were imputed randomly if missing. Based on Health and Welfare Canada specifications, derived variables and weights were added to the data tape.

Health and Welfare Canada also prepared a user-friendly code book, which includes variable codes and description, standard variable definition and guidelines for data analysis to facilitate proper use of the data tape.

Further, an edited data tape was provided to Health and Welfare Canada for additional test runs. Preliminary NADS data analysis indicated that findings were consistent with other Health and Welfare Canada surveys — for example, the 1985 Health Promotion Survey and the 1988 National Drinking and Driving Survey (Eliany et al. 1990). On these grounds, the NADS data tape was released for public use.

Guidelines for Analysis and Estimation



The complex design of the NADS, with stratified multiple stages of selection and unequal respondent probability selection, affects the estimation and variance calculation. The unweighted sample, not being representative of the target population, requires two types of corrections: weighting sample records for the purpose of population projection, and rescaling the sample to its effective sample size (ESS) for variance analysis.

Basic Weights

The first type of correction assigns a weight to each NADS record as follows: basic weight to allow for the assumption that each telephone number reached (hit rate) is proportionally the same in the sample as it is in the population, household non-response, multiple telephones per household, person weight per household, selected person non-response, an adjustment to the person weight to make the population totals consistent with census population projection at the time of the survey and, finally, provincial sex and age adjustment to agree with census population projection (Statistics Canada 1989).

The weight attached to each record is used to produce estimates or conduct analysis in order to make the NADS sample representative of the Canadian population in March 1989.

The Coefficient of Variation of the Estimate

The difference between the estimates obtained from the sample and the results from a complete population count is called the "sampling error" of the estimate.

Although the exact sampling error cannot be measured from sample results alone, it is possible to pro-

duce a statistical measure of sampling error from the sample data: this is the standard error. Using standard error, confidence intervals for estimates (ignoring the effect of non-sampling error) may be obtained under the assumption that the estimates are normally distributed about the true population value.

The chance of the difference between a sample estimate and a true population value being less than a standard error is about 68%; the chance is about 95% that the difference would be less than two standard errors; and it is virtually certain (about 100%) that the differences would be less than three standard errors.

Because of the large variety of estimates that can be derived from a survey, the standard error is usually expressed relative to the estimate to which it pertains. The resulting measure, known as the coefficient of variation of the estimate (CV), is obtained by dividing the standard error of the estimate by the estimate itself. It is expressed as a percentage of the estimate.

In Table C, the estimated total (in thousands) is located in the left-most column of the table (headed Numerator of percentage). If one follows the asterisks across to the first figure encountered, this figure is the coefficient of variation.

The coefficient of variation of an estimated percentage depends upon the size of the percentage and the size of the group upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50% or more. To estimate the coefficient of variation of a percentage, reference should be made to the percentage (across the top of the table) and to the numerator of the percentage, in thousands (down the left side of the table). The intersection of the appropriate row and column gives the appropriate coefficient of variation.

Data published in this report have been reviewed for release according to the following criteria:

- a) *unqualified* — CV not larger than 16.5% (data significant);

- b) *qualified* — CV between 16.6% and 33.3% (marked with an asterisk * to indicate that high sampling variability exists and that the estimate should be interpreted with caution);
- c) *suppressed* — CV greater than 33.3% (not released, data not significant).

The Effective Sample Size

The second type of correction required applies to other statistical analysis techniques, such as linear regression, logistic regression, estimation of rates and proportion and analysis of variance. NADS data should be rescaled to account for sample design in order to produce a theoretical effective sample size (ESS) for the purpose of calculating variances (not for the production of population estimates) (Table D). Without rescaling, the variances calculated are likely to be meaningless. In some cases, such as those involving provincial comparisons, unweighted data may be most suitable; otherwise, the weighted sample for provinces such as Prince Edward Island may be reduced to a point that no meaningful analysis may be made.

Sample Evaluation and Validity

The NADS was randomly selected, but it is not a simple random sample.

The special sample design characteristics discussed above imply that corrections are required to make sample counts representative of the Canadian population. Given this requirement, validity questions that arose led both Statistics Canada and Health and Welfare Canada to evaluate NADS estimates against estimates from other surveys.

Statistics Canada found NADS data to be comparable to census data (age and sex distribution) as well as to data from the Labour Force Survey (marital status and employment status), although some differences were noted (see Statistics Canada 1989 for more details). Similarly, Health and Welfare Canada found NADS findings comparable to findings from such surveys as the 1985 Health Promotion Survey and the 1988 National Drinking and Driving Survey.

References

- Catlin, G. and M. Shields. 1988. Conducting Community Based Surveys by Telephone. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, vol. 79: pp. 29–31.
- Eliany, M., N. Giesbrecht, M. Nelson, B. Wellman and S. Wortley. 1990. *National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989): Highlights Report*. Health and Welfare Canada, Ottawa.
- Statistics Canada. 1989. *National Alcohol and Drug Survey. Microdata Documentation and Users' Guide*.
- Waksberg, J. 1978. Sampling Methods for Random Digit Dialing. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, vol. 73, no. 361: pp. 40–46.

■ **Table A:**
NADS population by selected demographic
characteristics, age 15+, Canada, March 1989

Sample	Total	Percentage
Total population	11,634	100
Sex		
Men	5,291	45.5
Women	6,343	54.5
Marital status		
Married	6,292	54.0
Separated	452	3.9
Divorced	667	5.7
Widowed	1,011	8.7
Never married	3,206	27.6
Age		
15-19	838	7.2
20-24	1,049	9.0
25-34	3,059	26.3
35-44	2,352	20.2
45-54	1,371	11.8
55-64	1,207	10.8
65+	1,758	15.1
Education		
Less than secondary	4,141	35.9
Secondary completed	3,116	27.0
Some post-secondary		
non-university degree	2,693	23.4
University degree	1,577	13.7
Language		
English	9,261	79.6
French	1,966	16.9
Other	323	2.8

Table B:
Response and no-response rates

Province	Household rate (%)	No. of non-households	No. of households	No contact	Refusal of household	No response				Response	
						Refusal of individual selected	Other refusal	Partial interview	Rate of no response (%)	Responses	Rate of response (%)
Canada	43.0	19,576	14,791	756	741	284	961	415	21.3	11,634	78.7
Nfld.	43.6	1,526	1,118	53	29	9	108	21	18.6	961	81.4
P.E.I.	35.8	1,941	1,082	95	35	18	84	22	23.5	828	76.5
N.S.	56.8	1,254	1,651	166	42	33	101	50	23.7	1,259	76.3
N.B.	35.0	1,951	1,049	98	27	23	60	29	22.6	812	77.4
Que.	52.1	2,017	2,190	93	90	55	113	31	17.4	1,808	82.6
Ont.	51.3	2,516	2,649	178	167	50	179	101	25.5	1,974	74.5
Man.	33.4	2,296	1,150	1	76	12	73	41	17.7	947	82.3
Sask.	25.6	3,229	1,109	11	59	21	65	32	17.0	921	83.0
Alta.	50.7	1,258	1,292	13	109	47	111	20	23.3	992	76.8
B.C.	47.5	1,588	1,438	48	107	16	67	68	21.3	1,132	78.7

Note: Household rate = no. of households/(no. of households + no. of non-households)

No-response rate = no. of no responses/no. of households

Response rate = no. of responses/no. of households

SOURCE: NADS Micro-data Documentation and Users Guide, Statistics Canada, 1990

Table C:
Approximate sampling variability tables for the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada, March 1989

Numerator of percentage	Estimated percentage													
	0.1%	1.0%	2.0%	5.0%	10.0%	15.0%	20.0%	25.0%	30.0%	35.0%	40.0%	50.0%	70.0%	90.0%
1	181.9	181.0	180.1	177.4	172.6	167.8	162.7	157.6	152.2	146.7	140.9	128.7	99.7	57.5
2	128.6	128.0	127.4	125.4	122.1	118.6	115.1	111.4	107.6	103.7	99.7	91.0	70.5	40.7
3	105.0	104.5	104.0	102.4	99.7	96.9	94.0	91.0	87.9	84.7	81.4	74.3	57.5	33.2
4	90.9	90.5	90.1	88.7	86.3	83.9	81.4	78.8	76.1	73.3	70.5	64.3	49.8	28.8
5	81.3	81.0	80.6	79.3	77.2	75.0	72.8	70.5	68.1	65.6	63.0	57.5	44.6	25.7
6	74.2	73.9	73.5	72.4	70.5	68.5	66.4	64.3	62.2	59.9	57.5	52.5	40.7	23.5
7	68.7	68.4	68.1	67.0	65.2	63.4	61.5	59.6	57.5	55.4	53.3	48.6	37.7	21.7
8	64.3	64.0	63.7	62.7	61.0	59.3	57.5	55.7	53.8	51.9	49.8	45.5	35.2	20.3
9	60.6	60.3	60.0	59.1	57.5	55.9	54.2	52.5	50.7	48.9	47.0	42.9	33.2	19.2
10	57.5	57.3	57.0	56.1	54.6	53.0	51.5	49.8	48.1	46.4	44.6	40.7	31.5	18.2
11	54.8	54.6	54.3	53.5	52.0	50.6	49.1	47.5	45.9	44.2	42.5	38.8	30.0	17.3
12	52.5	52.3	52.0	51.2	49.8	48.4	47.0	45.5	43.9	42.3	40.7	37.1	28.8	16.6
13	50.4	50.2	50.0	49.2	47.9	46.5	45.1	43.7	42.2	40.7	39.1	35.7	27.6	16.0
14	48.6	48.4	48.1	47.4	46.1	44.8	43.5	42.1	40.7	39.2	37.7	34.4	26.6	15.4
15	47.0	46.7	46.5	45.8	44.6	43.3	42.0	40.7	39.3	37.9	36.4	33.2	25.7	14.9
16	45.5	45.3	45.0	44.3	43.2	41.9	40.7	39.4	38.1	36.7	35.2	32.2	24.9	14.4
17	44.1	43.9	43.7	43.0	41.9	40.7	39.5	38.2	36.9	35.6	34.2	31.2	24.2	14.0
18	42.9	42.7	42.5	41.8	40.7	39.5	38.4	37.1	35.9	34.6	33.2	30.3	23.5	13.6
19	41.7	41.5	41.3	40.7	39.6	38.5	37.3	36.2	34.9	33.7	32.3	29.5	22.9	13.2
20	40.7	40.5	40.3	39.7	38.6	37.5	36.4	35.2	34.0	32.8	31.5	28.8	22.3	12.9
21	****	39.5	39.3	38.7	37.7	36.6	35.5	34.4	33.2	32.0	30.8	28.1	21.7	12.6
22	****	38.6	38.4	37.8	36.8	35.8	34.7	33.6	32.5	31.3	30.0	27.4	21.2	12.3
23	****	37.8	37.6	37.0	36.0	35.0	33.9	32.9	31.7	30.6	29.4	26.8	20.8	12.0
24	****	37.0	36.8	36.2	35.2	34.2	33.2	32.2	31.1	29.9	28.8	26.3	20.3	11.7
25	****	36.2	36.0	35.5	34.5	33.6	32.5	31.5	30.4	29.3	28.2	25.7	19.9	11.5
30	****	33.1	32.9	32.4	31.5	30.6	29.7	28.8	27.8	26.8	25.7	23.5	18.2	10.5
35	****	30.6	30.4	30.0	29.2	28.4	27.5	26.6	25.7	24.8	23.8	21.7	16.8	9.7
40	****	28.6	28.5	28.0	27.3	26.5	25.7	24.9	24.1	23.2	22.3	20.3	15.8	9.1

(continued)

Table C: continued

Numerator of percentage	Estimated percentage													
	0.1%	1.0%	2.0%	5.0%	10.0%	15.0%	20.0%	25.0%	30.0%	35.0%	40.0%	50.0%	70.0%	90.0%
45	****	27.0	26.9	26.4	25.7	25.0	24.3	23.5	22.7	21.9	21.0	19.2	14.9	8.6
50	****	25.6	25.5	25.1	24.4	23.7	23.0	22.3	21.5	20.7	19.9	18.2	14.1	8.1
55	****	24.4	24.3	23.9	23.3	22.6	21.9	21.2	20.5	19.8	19.0	17.3	13.4	7.8
60	****	23.4	23.3	22.9	22.3	21.7	21.0	20.3	19.7	18.9	18.2	16.6	12.9	7.4
65	****	22.5	22.3	22.0	21.4	20.8	20.2	19.5	18.9	18.2	17.5	16.0	12.4	7.1
70	****	21.6	21.5	21.2	20.6	20.1	19.5	18.8	18.2	17.5	16.8	15.4	11.9	6.9
75	****	20.9	20.8	20.5	19.9	19.4	18.8	18.2	17.6	16.9	16.3	14.9	11.5	6.6
80	****	20.2	20.1	19.8	19.3	18.8	18.2	17.6	17.0	16.4	15.8	14.4	11.1	6.4
85	****	19.6	19.5	19.2	18.7	18.2	17.7	17.1	16.5	15.9	15.3	14.0	10.8	6.2
90	****	19.1	19.0	18.7	18.2	17.7	17.2	16.6	16.0	15.5	14.9	13.6	10.5	6.1
95	****	18.6	18.5	18.2	17.7	17.2	16.7	16.2	15.6	15.1	14.5	13.2	10.2	5.9
100	****	18.1	18.0	17.7	17.3	16.8	16.3	15.8	15.2	14.7	14.1	12.9	10.0	5.8
125	****	16.2	16.1	15.9	15.4	15.0	14.6	14.1	13.6	13.1	12.6	11.5	8.9	5.1
150	****	14.8	14.7	14.5	14.1	13.7	13.3	12.9	12.4	12.0	11.5	10.5	8.1	4.7
200	****	12.8	12.7	12.5	12.2	11.9	11.5	11.1	10.8	10.4	10.0	9.1	7.0	4.1
250	****	****	11.4	11.2	10.9	10.6	10.3	10.0	9.6	9.3	8.9	8.1	6.3	3.6
300	****	****	10.4	10.2	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.5	8.1	7.4	5.8	3.3
350	****	****	9.6	9.5	9.2	9.0	8.7	8.4	8.1	7.8	7.5	6.9	5.3	3.1
400	****	****	9.0	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.3	7.0	6.4	5.0	2.9
450	****	****	****	8.4	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.4	7.2	6.9	6.6	6.1	4.7	2.7
500	****	****	****	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.8	4.5	2.6
750	****	****	****	6.5	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.1	4.7	3.6	2.1
1,000	****	****	****	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.1	3.2	1.8
1,500	****	****	****	****	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.3	2.6	1.5
2,000	****	****	****	****	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.2	1.3
3,000	****	****	****	****	****	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.1
4,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.6	0.9
5,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.4	0.8
6,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.3	0.7
7,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.2	0.7
8,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	1.6	1.4	1.1	0.6
9,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	1.4	1.1	0.6
10,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	1.3	1.0	0.6
12,500	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	0.9	0.5
15,000	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	0.5

- Notes:
- (1) Sampling variabilities (coefficients of variation) are in percents.
 - (2) If the number of respondents contributing to the estimate is less than 30, the weighted estimate should not be released regardless of the value of the coefficient of variation for this estimate.
 - (3) To determine sampling variabilities for estimates of totals or percentages based on the entire population to which this table refers, locate the row closest to the estimated totals. The left-most column gives the sampling variability.
 - (4) To determine sampling variabilities for estimates of percentages based on subpopulations of the population to which this table refers, use the row closest to the numerator of the percentage and the column closest to the percentage.
 - (5) Sampling variabilities in this table are crude indicators and in general are higher than those that would be obtained using more exact techniques. Under no circumstances are they official.

SOURCE: NADS Micro-data Documentation and Users Guide, Statistics Canada, 1990

Table D:
Effective sample size adjustment table

Province	Unweighted N	Weighted N	Design effect	ESS factor
Nfld.	961	837	1.15	0.00196
P.E.I.	828	720	1.15	0.00734
N.S.	1,259	1,008	1.25	0.00146
N.B.	812	679	1.20	0.00123
Que.	1,808	1,571	1.15	0.00030
Ont.	1,974	1,647	1.20	0.00022
Man.	947	822	1.15	0.00099
Sask.	921	800	1.15	0.00107
Alta.	992	895	1.10	0.00049
B.C.	1,132	932	1.20	0.00039

National Alcohol and Drug Survey

1: - -
Telephone number

4:
Stratum

5:
Sequence number

Interviewer Name: _____

1. Would you prefer to be interviewed in English or French?

- ¹☐ English ²☐ French → (Go to french questionnaire or make appointment)

2. In general, compared to other persons your age would you say your health is...

- ¹☐ Excellent?
²☐ Very Good?
³☐ Good?
⁴☐ Fair?
⁵☐ Poor?

3. During the past 12 months would you describe your life as...

- ¹☐ Very stressful?
²☐ Fairly stressful?
³☐ Not very stressful?
⁴☐ Not at all stressful?

4. Over the past 12 months when you needed help or had a problem, how supportive or helpful were your family or friends? Were they...

- ¹☐ Very helpful?
²☐ Helpful?
³☐ Somewhat helpful?
⁴☐ Not helpful?
⁵☐ N/A, do not need family or friends

5. What is your current marital status? Are you...

- ¹☐ legally married (and not separated)? → go to 7
²☐ separated?
³☐ divorced?
⁴☐ widowed?
⁵☐ never married?

6. Are you currently living with a partner?

- ¹☐ Yes ²☐ No

TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

7. Now I'd like to ask you some questions about smoking.

Have you ever been a cigarette smoker?

- ¹☐ Yes ²☐ No → go to 12

8. How old were you when you started smoking?

9. At the present time do you smoke cigarettes?

- ¹☐ Yes → go to 11 ²☐ No

10. In which year did you stop smoking?

 1 9 year

11. How many cigarettes do/did you usually smoke per day?

OR

- ¹☐ Do/did not smoke every day

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

12. The next few questions are about alcohol. In these questions when we use the word drink it means:

- one bottle of beer or glass of draft
- one glass of wine or a wine cooler
- one straight or mixed drink with one ounce and a half of hard liquor

During the past 12 months have you had a drink of any alcoholic beverage?

- ¹☐ Yes → go to 18 ²☐ No

13. There are many reasons to limit one's drinking or avoid drinking altogether. What are your reasons for not drinking?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ⁰¹ <input type="radio"/> health reasons, not healthy | ⁰⁷ <input type="radio"/> drinking could affect my job |
| ⁰² <input type="radio"/> don't like the taste | ⁰⁸ <input type="radio"/> waste of money |
| ⁰³ <input type="radio"/> don't like the effect it has on me | ⁰⁹ <input type="radio"/> religious reasons |
| ⁰⁴ <input type="radio"/> I have seen bad examples of what alcohol can do | ¹⁰ <input type="radio"/> brought up not to drink |
| ⁰⁵ <input type="radio"/> for diet reasons, in athletic training | ¹¹ <input type="radio"/> alcoholic or had alcohol problem |
| ⁰⁶ <input type="radio"/> I am afraid I will become dependent on alcohol | ¹² <input type="radio"/> other |

14. How often during the past 12 months did you participate in the following activities?

	Less than once a month	1-3 times a month	A few times a year	A few times a month	Once a week	More than once a week	Never
a) Spend a quiet evening at home	⁰¹ <input type="radio"/>	⁰² <input type="radio"/>	⁰³ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁴ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁵ <input type="radio"/>		
b) Spend time at someone else's home	⁰⁶ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁷ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁸ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁹ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁰ <input type="radio"/>		
c) Have friends or relatives visit your home	¹¹ <input type="radio"/>	¹² <input type="radio"/>	¹³ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁴ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁵ <input type="radio"/>		
d) Go to a restaurant in the evening (excluding fast food)	¹⁶ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁷ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁸ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁹ <input type="radio"/>	²⁰ <input type="radio"/>		
e) Go to a restaurant for lunch (excluding fast food)	²¹ <input type="radio"/>	²² <input type="radio"/>	²³ <input type="radio"/>	²⁴ <input type="radio"/>	²⁵ <input type="radio"/>		
f) Go to a bar/tavern	²⁶ <input type="radio"/>	²⁷ <input type="radio"/>	²⁸ <input type="radio"/>	²⁹ <input type="radio"/>	³⁰ <input type="radio"/>		
g) Go to a club or a meeting	³¹ <input type="radio"/>	³² <input type="radio"/>	³³ <input type="radio"/>	³⁴ <input type="radio"/>	³⁵ <input type="radio"/>		

15. How many times during the past 12 months did you participate in the following special occasions or seasonal activities?

	Less than 12 times	12-51 times	52 times	More than 52 times	Never
	A few times a year	A few times a month	Once a week	More than once a week	
a) Leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating	⁰¹ <input type="radio"/>	⁰² <input type="radio"/>	⁰³ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁴ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁵ <input type="radio"/>
b) Sports activities such as skiing, softball or golf	⁰⁶ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁷ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁸ <input type="radio"/>	⁰⁹ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁰ <input type="radio"/>
c) Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	¹¹ <input type="radio"/>	¹² <input type="radio"/>	¹³ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁴ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁵ <input type="radio"/>
d) Go to a concert, sports event or festival	¹⁶ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁷ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁸ <input type="radio"/>	¹⁹ <input type="radio"/>	²⁰ <input type="radio"/>

16. Did you ever drink alcoholic beverages regularly?

¹ ☐ Yes → go to 37

² ☐ No

17. Does this mean that you have never had a drink?

¹ ☐ Yes } go to 48
² ☐ No }

18. I'm going to read several statements about the reasons why people drink. For each tell me if it is a reason you drink. Do you drink...

Yes No

a) To be sociable? ⁰¹ ☐ ⁰² ☐

b) To add to the enjoyment of meals? ⁰³ ☐ ⁰⁴ ☐

c) To feel good? ⁰⁵ ☐ ⁰⁶ ☐

d) To help you relax? ⁰⁷ ☐ ⁰⁸ ☐

e) To forget worries? ⁰⁹ ☐ ¹⁰ ☐

f) To feel less inhibited or shy? ¹¹ ☐ ¹² ☐

19. During the past 12 months how often on average did you drink alcoholic beverages? Was it...

¹ ☐ everyday?

² ☐ 4-6 times a week?

³ ☐ 2-3 times a week?

⁴ ☐ once a week?

⁵ ☐ 1-3 times a month?

⁶ ☐ less than once a month?

20. On the days when you drank how many drinks did you usually have?

number of drinks

21. What types of alcoholic beverages do you usually drink? (mark all that apply)

¹ ☐ beer

² ☐ light beer

³ ☐ wine

⁴ ☐ wine coolers

⁵ ☐ straight liquor

⁶ ☐ mixed liquor

⁷ ☐ other

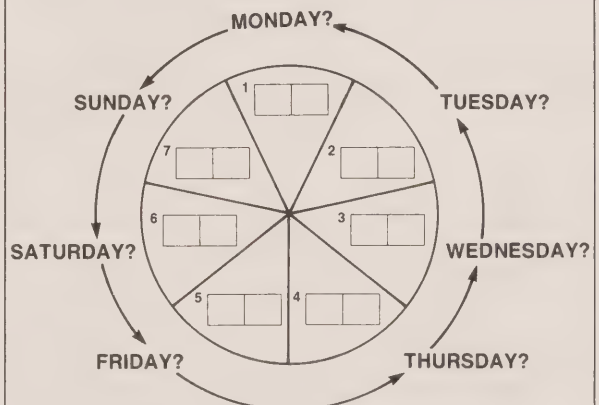
22. How many times in the past 12 months have you had FIVE or more drinks on one occasion?

23. In the past 12 months, what is the highest number of drinks you can recall having on any one occasion?

24. Thinking back over the last 7 days, starting with yesterday, how many drinks did you have on each day?

¹ ☐ None at all → go to 25

How many drinks did you have on...



25. How often during the past 12 months did you participate in the following activities?

	Less than once a month	1-3 times a month	Once a week	More than once a week	Never
a) Spend a quiet evening at home	01 <input type="radio"/>	02 <input type="radio"/>	03 <input type="radio"/>	04 <input type="radio"/>	05 <input type="radio"/>
b) Spend time at someone else's home	06 <input type="radio"/>	07 <input type="radio"/>	08 <input type="radio"/>	09 <input type="radio"/>	10 <input type="radio"/>
c) Have friends or relatives visit your home	11 <input type="radio"/>	12 <input type="radio"/>	13 <input type="radio"/>	14 <input type="radio"/>	15 <input type="radio"/>
d) Go to a restaurant in the evening (excluding fast food)	16 <input type="radio"/>	17 <input type="radio"/>	18 <input type="radio"/>	19 <input type="radio"/>	20 <input type="radio"/>
e) Go to a restaurant for lunch (excluding fast food)	21 <input type="radio"/>	22 <input type="radio"/>	23 <input type="radio"/>	24 <input type="radio"/>	25 <input type="radio"/>
f) Go to a bar/tavern	26 <input type="radio"/>	27 <input type="radio"/>	28 <input type="radio"/>	29 <input type="radio"/>	30 <input type="radio"/>
g) Go to a club or a meeting	31 <input type="radio"/>	32 <input type="radio"/>	33 <input type="radio"/>	34 <input type="radio"/>	35 <input type="radio"/>

B. When you _____ how often do you drink? Never, less than half the time, half the time, more than half the time or always?

	Never	Less than 1/2 the time	1/2 the time	More than 1/2 the time	Always	Number of drinks
1	01 <input type="radio"/>	02 <input type="radio"/>	03 <input type="radio"/>	04 <input type="radio"/>	05 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	06 <input type="radio"/>	07 <input type="radio"/>	08 <input type="radio"/>	09 <input type="radio"/>	10 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
3	11 <input type="radio"/>	12 <input type="radio"/>	13 <input type="radio"/>	14 <input type="radio"/>	15 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
4	16 <input type="radio"/>	17 <input type="radio"/>	18 <input type="radio"/>	19 <input type="radio"/>	20 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
5	21 <input type="radio"/>	22 <input type="radio"/>	23 <input type="radio"/>	24 <input type="radio"/>	25 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
6	26 <input type="radio"/>	27 <input type="radio"/>	28 <input type="radio"/>	29 <input type="radio"/>	30 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
7	31 <input type="radio"/>	32 <input type="radio"/>	33 <input type="radio"/>	34 <input type="radio"/>	35 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>

26. How many times during the past 12 months did you participate in the following special occasions or seasonal activities?

	Less than 12 times	12-51 times	52 times	More than 52 times	Never
a) leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating	01 <input type="radio"/>	02 <input type="radio"/>	03 <input type="radio"/>	04 <input type="radio"/>	05 <input type="radio"/>
b) sports activities such as skiing, softball or golf	06 <input type="radio"/>	07 <input type="radio"/>	08 <input type="radio"/>	09 <input type="radio"/>	10 <input type="radio"/>
c) Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	11 <input type="radio"/>	12 <input type="radio"/>	13 <input type="radio"/>	14 <input type="radio"/>	15 <input type="radio"/>
d) Go to a concert, sports event, or festival	16 <input type="radio"/>	17 <input type="radio"/>	18 <input type="radio"/>	19 <input type="radio"/>	20 <input type="radio"/>

B. When you _____ how often do you drink? Never, less than half the time, half the time, more than half the time or always?

	Never	Less than 1/2 the time	1/2 the time	More than 1/2 the time	Always	Number of drinks
1	01 <input type="radio"/>	02 <input type="radio"/>	03 <input type="radio"/>	04 <input type="radio"/>	05 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	06 <input type="radio"/>	07 <input type="radio"/>	08 <input type="radio"/>	09 <input type="radio"/>	10 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
3	11 <input type="radio"/>	12 <input type="radio"/>	13 <input type="radio"/>	14 <input type="radio"/>	15 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
4	16 <input type="radio"/>	17 <input type="radio"/>	18 <input type="radio"/>	19 <input type="radio"/>	20 <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>

27. During the past 12 months, how often did you drink...

	Less than once a month	1-3 times a month		
Never	A few times a year	A few times a month	Once a week	More than once a week

- a) with friends? 01 ☐ 02 ☐ 03 ☐ 04 ☐ 05 ☐
- b) with your spouse/partner? 06 ☐ 07 ☐ 08 ☐ 09 ☐ 10 ☐
(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'never')
- c) with family members or relatives? 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐
- d) with co-workers? 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐
- e) by yourself or when others were not drinking? 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐

28. As the price of alcoholic beverages has increased, have you...

Yes No

- a) cut down the amount you drink (buy)? 01 ☐ 02 ☐
- b) switched to a cheaper brand? 03 ☐ 04 ☐
- c) made your own? 05 ☐ 06 ☐
- d) drank at home instead of going out to drink? 07 ☐ 08 ☐
- e) bought more duty free liquor whenever possible? 09 ☐ 10 ☐
- f) looked for occasions when drinks were free? 11 ☐ 12 ☐

29. In the past 12 months, have you been invited to have a drink by any of the following?

Yes No

- a) your spouse/partner 1 ☐ 2 ☐
(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')
- b) a family member or relative 3 ☐ 4 ☐
- c) a friend 5 ☐ 6 ☐
- d) a co-worker 7 ☐ 8 ☐

30. In the past 12 months, have you taken a drink to please anyone although you did not feel like drinking?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No → go to 31

Was it to please...

Yes No

- a) your spouse/partner? 1 ☐ 2 ☐
(If respondent is not married or living with a partner, do not ask, and mark 'no')
- b) a family member or relative? 3 ☐ 4 ☐
- c) a friend? 5 ☐ 6 ☐
- d) a co-worker? 7 ☐ 8 ☐

31. In the past 12 months, has there been an occasion when you would have liked to take a drink but did not in order to please anyone?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No → go to 32

Was it to please...

Yes No

- a) your spouse/partner? 1 ☐ 2 ☐
(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')
- b) a family member or relative? 3 ☐ 4 ☐
- c) a friend? 5 ☐ 6 ☐
- d) a co-worker? 7 ☐ 8 ☐

32. Do you drive a motor vehicle?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No → go to 35

33. In the past 12 months have you been in a motor vehicle accident with you as the driver, even if it wasn't your fault?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

34. In the past 12 months, how many times have you driven after having two or more drinks in the previous hour?

number of occurrences

35. Have you ever had any contact with the police as a result of your drinking?

¹○ Yes ²○ No

36. Was there ever a time that you felt your alcohol use had a harmful effect on...

Was this
during the
past 12
months?

Yes No

a) your friendships or social life? ... ⁰¹○ Yes → ⁰¹○ ⁰²○ No

b) your physical health? ... ⁰³○ Yes → ⁰³○ ⁰⁴○ No

c) your outlook on life (happiness)? ... ⁰⁵○ Yes → ⁰⁵○ ⁰⁶○ No

d) your home life or marriage? ... ⁰⁷○ Yes → ⁰⁷○ ⁰⁸○ No

e) your work, studies or employment opportunities? ... ⁰⁹○ Yes → ⁰⁹○ ¹⁰○ No

f) your financial position? ... ¹¹○ Yes → ¹¹○ ¹²○ No

37. Have you ever stopped drinking altogether for a period of time?

¹○ Yes ²○ No → go to 40

38. When was the last time? Was it...

¹○ within the past 12 months?

²○ 1-5 years ago?

³○ over 5 years ago?

39. How long did it last?

¹○ still continuing

²○ less than 1 month

³○ 1-3 months

⁴○ 4-6 months

⁵○ 7-11 months

⁶○ 1-2 years

⁷○ 3-5 years

⁸○ more than 5 years

40. Have you ever reduced or cut down the amount you drink without quitting completely?

¹○ Yes → go to 42 ²○ No

41. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:

¹○ If 'No' in 37 and 'No' in 40 go to 46

²○ Otherwise go to 44

42. When was the last time? Was it...

¹○ within the past 12 months?

²○ 1-5 years ago?

³○ over 5 years ago?

43. How long did it last?

¹○ still continuing

²○ less than 1 month

³○ 1-3 months

⁴○ 4-6 months

⁵○ 7-11 months

⁶○ 1-2 years

⁷○ 3-5 years

⁸○ more than 5 years

44. Why did you reduce drinking or quit drinking altogether?

Yes No

a) for reasons such as pregnancy, dieting, athletic training, etc. ... ⁰¹○ ⁰²○

b) because you were getting older ... ⁰³○ ⁰⁴○

c) you thought you were drinking too much/or had a drinking problem ... ⁰⁵○ ⁰⁶○

d) it was affecting your work, studies or employment opportunities ... ⁰⁷○ ⁰⁸○

e) it was interfering with your family or home life ... ⁰⁹○ ¹⁰○

f) it was affecting your physical health ... ¹¹○ ¹²○

g) it was affecting your friendships or social life ... ¹³○ ¹⁴○

h) it was affecting your financial position ... ¹⁵○ ¹⁶○

i) it was affecting your outlook on life, happiness ... ¹⁷○ ¹⁸○

j) because of influence from your family or friends ... ¹⁹○ ²⁰○

45. Which of the following things did you do to reduce the amount you drink, or to quit altogether?

Yes No

a) Skip parties or other social events? ⁰¹○ ⁰²○

b) Avoid being with friends who drink a lot? ⁰³○ ⁰⁴○

c) Go to bars and taverns less often? ⁰⁵○ ⁰⁶○

d) Limit the number of drinks you have? ⁰⁷○ ⁰⁸○

e) Change what you drink? (eg. changed to soft drinks or light beer) ⁰⁹○ ¹⁰○

f) Get involved in activities that do not include drinking? ¹¹○ ¹²○

46. There are many services and help for people concerned about drinking. Have you ever used any of the services or help offered for yourself?

¹○ Yes ²○ No → go to 48

47. Which services or help did you use?

⁰¹○ family member/friend

⁰²○ A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous), Al-Anon, support group

⁰³○ psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker

⁰⁴○ psychiatric hospital

⁰⁵○ minister, priest, rabbi

⁰⁶○ doctor, nurse

⁰⁷○ hospital, emergency department

⁰⁸○ alcohol/drug addiction agency

⁰⁹○ detox (detoxification) centre, halfway house

¹⁰○ other

48. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:

¹○ If legally married or living with partner (1 in Q5 or 1 in Q6), go to 49

²○ Otherwise, go to 51

49. Thinking about the past 12 months, how often has your spouse/partner had a drink? Was it...

¹○ everyday?

²○ 4-6 times a week?

³○ 2-3 times a week?

⁴○ once a week?

⁵○ 1-3 times a month?

⁶○ less than once a month?

⁷○ don't know

⁸○ never? → go to 51

50. On the days when he/she drank, how many drinks did he/she usually have?

number of drinks

51. Now I'll describe situations that people sometimes find themselves in. For each one, please tell me how much a person in that situation should feel free to drink.

Should there be...

No drinking? 1-2 drinks? Enough to feel the effects? Getting drunk is sometimes OK? Don't know

a) at a party, at someone else's home? ⁰¹○ ⁰²○ ⁰³○ ⁰⁴○ ⁰⁵○

b) for a man out at a bar with friends? ⁰⁶○ ⁰⁷○ ⁰⁸○ ⁰⁹○ ¹⁰○

c) for a woman out at a bar with friends? ¹¹○ ¹²○ ¹³○ ¹⁴○ ¹⁵○

d) for a couple having dinner at home? ... ¹⁶○ ¹⁷○ ¹⁸○ ¹⁹○ ²⁰○

e) for co-workers out to lunch? ... ²¹○ ²²○ ²³○ ²⁴○ ²⁵○

f) with friends at your home? ²⁶○ ²⁷○ ²⁸○ ²⁹○ ³⁰○

g) when getting together with friends after work before going home? ³¹○ ³²○ ³³○ ³⁴○ ³⁵○

h) when getting together with people for sports events or recreation? ³⁶○ ³⁷○ ³⁸○ ³⁹○ ⁴⁰○

		Yes	No	Don't know/ N/A			Yes	No
52. a)	Have you ever spoken to somebody at work because drinking was affecting their performance?	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>				
b)	Have you ever driven/or arranged for transportation to take someone home from a party because you thought they had too much to drink?	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>				
c)	Have you ever called the police after seeing a drunk person get behind the wheel or drive dangerously?	7 <input type="radio"/>	8 <input type="radio"/>	9 <input type="radio"/>				
53. The next few questions are about your experience with other people's drinking problems. Have you ever...					Was this during the past 12 months?			
a)	Been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking?	01 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	01 <input type="radio"/>	02 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		02 <input type="radio"/>	No					
b)	Had serious arguments or quarrels as a result of someone else's drinking?	03 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	03 <input type="radio"/>	04 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		04 <input type="radio"/>	No					
c)	Had friendships break up as a result of someone else's drinking?	05 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	05 <input type="radio"/>	06 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		06 <input type="radio"/>	No					
d)	Had family problems or marriage difficulties due to someone else's drinking?	07 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	07 <input type="radio"/>	08 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		08 <input type="radio"/>	No					
e)	Been a passenger with a driver who had too much to drink?	09 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	09 <input type="radio"/>	10 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		10 <input type="radio"/>	No					
f)	Been in a motor vehicle accident because of someone else's drinking?	11 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	11 <input type="radio"/>	12 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		12 <input type="radio"/>	No					
g)	Had your property vandalized by someone who had been drinking?	13 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	13 <input type="radio"/>	14 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		14 <input type="radio"/>	No					
h)	Been pushed, hit or assaulted by someone who had been drinking?	15 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	15 <input type="radio"/>	16 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		16 <input type="radio"/>	No					
i)	Been disturbed by loud parties or the behaviour of people drinking?	17 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	17 <input type="radio"/>	18 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		18 <input type="radio"/>	No					
j)	Had financial trouble because of someone else's drinking?	19 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	19 <input type="radio"/>	20 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		20 <input type="radio"/>	No					
54.							Was this during the past 12 months?	
a)	Has your spouse/partner ever had a drinking problem?	1 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	No		
	(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')	2 <input type="radio"/>	No					
b)	Has a family member or relative ever had a drinking problem?	3 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		4 <input type="radio"/>	No					
c)	Have you ever had a friend with a drinking problem?	5 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		6 <input type="radio"/>	No					
d)	Have you ever known a co-worker who had a drinking problem?	7 <input type="radio"/>	Yes →	7 <input type="radio"/>	8 <input type="radio"/>	No		
		8 <input type="radio"/>	No					
55. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:								
1 <input type="radio"/> If all 'NO' in 54, go to 58								
2 <input type="radio"/> If one or more 'yes' responses, refer to the first 'yes' in 54 when asking questions 56 and 57.								
56. Did you do any of the following because of your _____'s drinking problem? Did you...								
		Yes	No					
a)	avoid the person? ..	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>					
b)	give advice?	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>					
c)	suggest they seek professional help or help them to get assistance?	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>	→ go to 58				
57. Which services or help did you suggest?								
01 <input type="radio"/>	family member/friend							
02 <input type="radio"/>	A.A.(Alcoholics Anonymous), Al-Anon, support group							
03 <input type="radio"/>	Psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker							
04 <input type="radio"/>	psychiatric hospital							
05 <input type="radio"/>	minister, priest, rabbi							
06 <input type="radio"/>	doctor, nurse							
07 <input type="radio"/>	hospital, emergency department							
08 <input type="radio"/>	alcohol/drug addiction agency							
09 <input type="radio"/>	detox (detoxification) centre, halfway house							
10 <input type="radio"/>	other							

58. The next few questions refer to the use of medicines and pills in the last 30 days.

INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:
If respondent is a non-drinker
(No to Q12) do not ask Part C.

A. In the past 30 days did you take any of the following medications?		B. Was this with a doctor's order or prescription?		C. Did you consume any alcoholic beverages while using this medication?
a) aspirin or similar pain reliever (includes arthritis medicine)	⁰¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰² <input type="radio"/> No	→	⁰¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰² <input type="radio"/> No	⁰¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰² <input type="radio"/> No
b) tranquilizers such as valium	⁰³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁴ <input type="radio"/> No	→	⁰³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁴ <input type="radio"/> No	⁰³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁴ <input type="radio"/> No
c) diet pills or stimulants	⁰⁵ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁶ <input type="radio"/> No	→	⁰⁵ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁶ <input type="radio"/> No	⁰⁵ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁶ <input type="radio"/> No
d) anti-depressants	⁰⁷ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁸ <input type="radio"/> No	→	⁰⁷ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁸ <input type="radio"/> No	⁰⁷ <input type="radio"/> Yes ⁰⁸ <input type="radio"/> No
e) codeine, demerol, morphine	⁰⁹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁰ <input type="radio"/> No	→	⁰⁹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁰ <input type="radio"/> No	⁰⁹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁰ <input type="radio"/> No
f) allergy medicine such as sinutab	¹¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹² <input type="radio"/> No	→	¹¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹² <input type="radio"/> No	¹¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹² <input type="radio"/> No
g) cough or cold remedies	¹³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁴ <input type="radio"/> No	→	¹³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁴ <input type="radio"/> No	¹³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁴ <input type="radio"/> No
h) penicillin or similar antibiotics	¹⁵ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁶ <input type="radio"/> No	→	¹⁵ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁶ <input type="radio"/> No	¹⁵ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁶ <input type="radio"/> No
i) medicine for the heart or blood pressure	¹⁷ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁸ <input type="radio"/> No	→	¹⁷ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁸ <input type="radio"/> No	¹⁷ <input type="radio"/> Yes ¹⁸ <input type="radio"/> No
j) insulin or similar diabetic medicine	¹⁹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²⁰ <input type="radio"/> No	→	¹⁹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²⁰ <input type="radio"/> No	¹⁹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²⁰ <input type="radio"/> No
k) sleeping pills	²¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²² <input type="radio"/> No	→	²¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²² <input type="radio"/> No	²¹ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²² <input type="radio"/> No
l) stomach remedies, laxatives	²³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²⁴ <input type="radio"/> No	→	²³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²⁴ <input type="radio"/> No	²³ <input type="radio"/> Yes ²⁴ <input type="radio"/> No

59. Have you ever used any of the following?

B. Have you
used it in the
past 12
months?

Yes No

- a) Marijuana or hash ⁰¹ ☐ Yes → ⁰¹ ☐ ⁰² ☐ No
- b) Cocaine or crack ⁰³ ☐ Yes → ⁰³ ☐ ⁰⁴ ☐ No
- c) LSD (acid) ⁰⁵ ☐ Yes → ⁰⁵ ☐ ⁰⁶ ☐ No
- d) Speed (amphetamines) ⁰⁷ ☐ Yes → ⁰⁷ ☐ ⁰⁸ ☐ No
- e) Heroin ⁰⁹ ☐ Yes → ⁰⁹ ☐ ¹⁰ ☐ No

IF ALL NO IN 59 GO TO 68

60. There are many services and help for people concerned about drugs. Have you ever used any of the services or help offered for yourself?

¹ ☐ Yes ² ☐ No

61. Have you ever had any contact with the police as a result of your drug use?

¹ ☐ Yes ² ☐ No

62. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:

¹ ☐ If respondent has used marijuana in the past 12 months ('yes' to second part of 59a) go to 63

² ☐ Otherwise, go to 68

63. I'm going to read several statements about the reasons why people use marijuana or hash. For each tell me if that is a reason you have for using marijuana.

Yes No

- a) To feel high ⁰¹ ☐ ⁰² ☐
- b) To relax ⁰³ ☐ ⁰⁴ ☐
- c) To forget worries ⁰⁵ ☐ ⁰⁶ ☐
- d) To be sociable ⁰⁷ ☐ ⁰⁸ ☐
- e) To feel less inhibited or shy ⁰⁹ ☐ ¹⁰ ☐
- f) To see what it was like ¹¹ ☐ ¹² ☐

64. How often have you used marijuana or hash in the past 12 months?

¹ ☐ less than once a month

² ☐ 1-3 times a month

³ ☐ once a week

⁴ ☐ more than once a week

65. During the past 12 months have you used marijuana or hash in the following places?

Yes No

- a) at a bar/tavern ⁰¹ ☐ ⁰² ☐
- b) at a private home ⁰³ ☐ ⁰⁴ ☐
- c) at school/university ⁰⁵ ☐ ⁰⁶ ☐
- d) at a party or social gathering ⁰⁷ ☐ ⁰⁸ ☐
- e) at a concert, sports event, festival, etc. ⁰⁹ ☐ ¹⁰ ☐
- f) outdoors: while boating, camping, skiing, fishing ¹¹ ☐ ¹² ☐

66. Have you used marijuana or hash with the following people during the last 12 months?

Yes No

- a) with your spouse/partner ⁰¹ ☐ ⁰² ☐
(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')
- b) with a family member or relative ⁰³ ☐ ⁰⁴ ☐
- c) with friends ⁰⁵ ☐ ⁰⁶ ☐
- d) with co-workers ⁰⁷ ☐ ⁰⁸ ☐
- e) while alone ⁰⁹ ☐ ¹⁰ ☐

67. In the past 12 months have you driven within two hours of using marijuana/hash?

¹ ☐ Yes ² ☐ No

68. The next few questions concern problems with the use of illegal drugs or prescription drugs which may have been experienced by others.

Yes No

- a) Has your spouse/partner ever had a drug problem? ¹ ☐ ² ☐
(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')
- b) Has a family member or relative ever had a drug problem? ³ ☐ ⁴ ☐
- c) Have you ever had a friend with a drug problem? ⁵ ☐ ⁶ ☐
- d) Have you ever known a co-worker who had a drug problem? ⁷ ☐ ⁸ ☐

69. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:

- ¹ ☐ If all 'NO' in 68 → go to 72.
- ² ☐ If one or more 'YES' responses refer to the first 'YES' in 68 when asking questions 70 and 71.

70. Did you do any of the following because of your _____'s drug problem? Did you...

Yes No

- a) avoid the person? .. ¹☐ ²☐
- b) give advice? ³☐ ⁴☐
- c) suggest they seek professional help or help them to get assistance? ⁵☐ ⁶☐ → go to 72

71. Which services or help did you suggest?

- ⁰¹ ☐ family member, friend
- ⁰² ☐ A.A.(Alcoholics Anonymous), Al-Anon, support group, Narcotics Anonymous
- ⁰³ ☐ psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker
- ⁰⁴ ☐ psychiatric hospital
- ⁰⁵ ☐ minister, priest, rabbi
- ⁰⁶ ☐ doctor, nurse
- ⁰⁷ ☐ hospital, emergency department
- ⁰⁸ ☐ alcohol/drug addiction agency
- ⁰⁹ ☐ detoxification (detox) centre, half-way house
- ¹⁰ ☐ other

72. Have any of the following situations ever happened to you?

Yes No

- a) Have there been times when you would have welcomed more details from your pharmacist or doctor about side-effects of medication? ¹☐ ²☐
- b) Have you ever expressed concern to a friend or relative about their use of prescription drugs? ³☐ ⁴☐
- c) Have you ever contacted the police because you knew of someone using drugs? ⁵☐ ⁶☐
- d) Have you ever suggested to a friend that they stop using drugs? ⁷☐ ⁸☐

73. Now we have just a few more questions to ask on how you feel about laws concerning alcohol and drugs. Do you think...

Increase Decrease Same Don't know

- a) Taxes on alcoholic beverages should be increased, decreased or remain the same? ⁰¹☐ ⁰²☐ ⁰³☐ ⁰⁴☐
- b) Beer and liquor store hours should be increased, decreased or remain the same? ⁰⁵☐ ⁰⁶☐ ⁰⁷☐ ⁰⁸☐
- c) The legal drinking age should be raised, lowered or remain the same? ⁰⁹☐ ¹⁰☐ ¹¹☐ ¹²☐
- d) Efforts to prevent drunken customers being served should be increased, decreased or remain the same? ¹³☐ ¹⁴☐ ¹⁵☐ ¹⁶☐
- e) Government's advertising against drinking should be increased, decreased or remain the same? ¹⁷☐ ¹⁸☐ ¹⁹☐ ²⁰☐
- f) Alcohol or drug education and prevention programs should be increased, decreased or remain the same? ²¹☐ ²²☐ ²³☐ ²⁴☐
- g) Treatment programs should be increased, decreased or remain the same? ²⁵☐ ²⁶☐ ²⁷☐ ²⁸☐

74. Do you think alcoholic beverages should be available in the corner stores?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

75. Do you think alcoholic beverages should have warning labels about possible health hazards?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

76. Should the government prohibit wine, liquor and beer advertising on T.V.?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

77. Should the government prohibit wine/liquor/beer companies from sponsoring sporting or cultural events?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

78. We would like your opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication, and illegal drug use. Do you think...

Very effective Moderately effective Not at all effective Don't know/No opinion

a) self help programs such as AA, are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all? .. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

b) emergency telephone services are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all? .. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

c) community prevention efforts such as providing workshops and information on alcohol and drugs are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all? .. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

d) treatment by social workers or medical staff in the area of alcohol and drugs are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all? .. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

79. The possession of marijuana is currently illegal in Canada. Do you think a person should get a criminal record if he/she is caught possessing marijuana?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

80. Do the following problems exist in your community or neighbourhood enough for you to be concerned?

Yes No

a) drinking and driving? ☐ ☐

b) family conflicts related to alcohol use? ☐ ☐

c) public fights or disturbances from alcohol use? ☐ ☐

d) alcohol related health problems? ☐ ☐

e) problems in the workplace due to alcohol use? ☐ ☐

f) misuse of prescription drugs and over the counter drugs? ☐ ☐

g) illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or drugs? ☐ ☐

81. Now I would like to ask you a few questions about yourself.

How much do you currently weigh?

OR
pounds kilograms

82. How tall are you?

OR
feet inches centimetres

83. What is the highest grade or level of education you have ever completed?

☐ No schooling

☐ Elementary

☐ Some } secondary
☐ Completed }

☐ Some } community college, technical college, CEGEP, nurse's training
☐ Completed }

☐ Some } university or teacher's college
☐ Completed }

☐ Other education or training

84. Which of the following best describes your main activity during the past 12 months? Were you mainly...

☐ Working at a job or business → go to 86

☐ Looking for work → go to 85

☐ A student

☐ Retired

☐ Keeping house

☐ other

go to 88

85. Did you have a job at any time during the past 12 months?

¹☐ Yes ²☐ No → go to 88

86. What kind of business, industry or service is/was it that you work/worked for?

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87. What kind of work do/did you do?

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88. In the past FIVE years, have you been continuously unemployed for a year or longer (that is not being paid for work but looking for work)?

¹☐ Yes ²☐ No

89. What language do you speak at home now (if more than one language, which is spoken most often)?

- ¹☐ English
²☐ French
³☐ German
⁴☐ Italian
⁵☐ Chinese
⁶☐ Other

90. Which ethnic or cultural group do you belong to?

- ⁰¹☐ Canadian
⁰²☐ French
⁰³☐ English (British)
⁰⁴☐ German
⁰⁵☐ Scottish
⁰⁶☐ Irish
⁰⁷☐ Italian
⁰⁸☐ Ukrainian
⁰⁹☐ Dutch
¹⁰☐ Chinese
¹¹☐ Jewish
¹²☐ Polish
¹³☐ Portugese
¹⁴☐ Other

91. What if any is your religion?

- ⁰¹☐ None → go to 93
⁰²☐ Roman Catholic
⁰³☐ United Church
⁰⁴☐ Anglican
⁰⁵☐ Presbyterian
⁰⁶☐ Baptist
⁰⁷☐ Pentecostal
⁰⁸☐ Lutheran
⁰⁹☐ Greek Orthodox
¹⁰☐ Ukrainian Catholic
¹¹☐ Jewish
¹²☐ Jehovah's Witness
¹³☐ Mennonite
¹⁴☐ Islam
¹⁵☐ Hindu
¹⁶☐ Other

92. Do you consider yourself to be very religious, moderately religious, or not very religious?

- ¹☐ Very religious
²☐ Moderately religious
³☐ Not very religious

93. Are there any children under 15 living in the household?

¹☐ Yes ²☐ No

How many are...

5 years old or less?

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6 to 11 years old?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

12 to 14 years old?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

94. What was your household's total income from all sources before taxes and deductions for 1988? Was it...

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| ¹⁰ <input type="radio"/> Less than \$20,000 | { | ¹¹ <input type="radio"/> Less than \$10,000 | { | ¹³ <input type="radio"/> Less than \$5,000 |
| | | ¹² <input type="radio"/> \$10,000 or more | | ¹⁴ <input type="radio"/> \$5,000 or more |
| ²⁰ <input type="radio"/> \$20,000 or more | { | ²¹ <input type="radio"/> Less than \$40,000 | { | ²³ <input type="radio"/> Less than \$30,000 |
| | | ²² <input type="radio"/> \$40,000 or more | | ²⁴ <input type="radio"/> \$30,000 or more |
| | | | | ²⁵ <input type="radio"/> Less than \$60,000 |
| | | | | ²⁶ <input type="radio"/> \$60,000 or more |
| | | | | ⁹⁷ <input type="radio"/> no income |
| | | | | ⁹⁸ <input type="radio"/> don't know |

1 ☐ one
2 ☐ two
3 ☐ three
4 ☐ four or more

THANK RESPONDENT

Comments:

